

GIVING MONEY ITS PROPER PLACE

Not My Love

Foundation Statement: Money never gets the place my love

I. If money has the place of your love it has been improperly placed

- A. Matthew 22:36-Your love is reserved for God and people
- B. 1 John 2:15-It didn't say don't have thing, it said don't love them
 - 1. That's perverse when you love things more than God and people
- C. 1 Timothy 6:10-Don't love money or riches is the root to evil
- D. Proverbs 21:17-If you give money and things the place of your love it'll cost you your prosperity

II. Mark 10:25-Jesus is showing this guy what place money and things have in his life

- A. The rich young ruler
 - 1. You can tell by his running and kneeling that something's missing in his life and he desperately, seriously wants to obtain this
 - 2. His question is not just concerning the other side of eternity; it's that too, but he's wanting to know how to get the fullness of life now and eternally
- B. The lawyer with the same question-Luke 10:25
 - 1. The answer to this question is to Keep the commandment of love
 - 2. The lawyer is trying to tempt Jesus; his motive is much different in asking
 - 3. Jesus gives this guy little to know time, while the rich young ruler he takes the time to specifically show him where his violating this commandment
- C. The one he lacked was this commandment of love
 - 1. Love God with all your strength-Deut 6:5-might-Resources, Abundance
 - a. He didn't love God with all of his strength-resources or stuff
 - b. He loved his money and possessions more than he loved God; he **held** to his stuff and **despised** Jesus; he **preferred** one to the other
 - 2. Grief is associated with the loss of something or somebody you love
 - a. You don't grieve over the death of someone you didn't know because you don't have a relationship of love with them
 - 1) If he didn't love his stuff there would be no grief about losing it
 - b. He's grieving because what he wants is going to cost him what he loves the most; The thought of losing his possessions cause him grief
 - 3. Grief comes when you think you're losing something
 - a. He thought he was losing it and would never see it again

- D. Look what would have happened to this guy if he would have proved to Jesus that he loved Him more than this money and stuff; He'd of been 100x richer than he ever was
 - 1. Because money was ahead of Jesus and out of place he wasn't qualified to handle the 100 fold
 - 2. If he'd been willing to put Jesus ahead of all his money and possessions it would have proven him qualified to handle 100 times more
 - 3. The person who's willing to leave everything for God is the one who can handle the hundred fold

III. Do you love money?

- A. God said take this job, but you took the other one because it paid more
- B. You wouldn't stay in faith because the Word says to, but you'll worry because money says to
- C. You wouldn't come done church because the man God called and sent to be your Pastor is having a service for your spiritual growth and edification, but you would have came for \$1000
- D. You get to work every day of the week tired or not, but when it comes to church you can only get there when it's convenient

IV. God's after your heart not just your treasure

- A. He's after what you treasure, but not for the treasure's sake; he's after your heart for your sake not His-
Matthew 6:21
 - 1. Where what you value is, there will be your thoughts, passion, desire, affection, appetite, purpose, and endeavors
 - a. Where your treasure is there will your love be also
 - 2. He is my treasure and my heart is with Him
- B. Joel 1:9-12,2:11-1419-28-They weren't serving God with all their heart and lack was in the land because of it If they'd give God all their heart, there'd be abundance
- C. If you'll ever get to the place where your **willing to give all** you have to him, then He'll be in a position **to trust you with all that He has**
 - 1. God will give you opportunity after opportunity to prove that you can be trusted with more
 - 2. Luke 16:10-11-Faithfulness is how God finds out if you're ready
 - a. If you're not willing to offer God all you have when you have nothing, you won't do it when you have something more
 - 3. It's not until you totally commit to God and He has all of you that you'll prosper to the level that God wants you to
 - a. The enemy has tried to place in the hearts and mind of believers a fear of letting go in the belief that they'll never see it again; while the Holy Spirit works to get faith in the hearts and minds of believers that what they let go of in obedience to God they'll see again 100x greater
- D. Psalm 62:10-If your riches increase don't make them your treasure
 - 1. It didn't say don't increase in riches; don't set/fix your heart on them

V. Sometimes God will require your "Isaac" (your best), to give you the opportunity to have his "Jesus"

(best)-Genesis 22

- A. 1-God's going to give Abraham and opportunity to prove it
 - 1. We ought to **relish the opportunity** to prove it
 - a. Because of the fear of not having, not seeing again, or doing without we haven't relished these opportunities and it's kept us from our promotion
 - 2. Ezekiel 33:31, Malachi 2:17-Enough talk already; prove it
- B. 2-You love Isaac, but has he come between you and me; is he your head?
 - 1. Take YOUR ONLY-God likes to come after your best, last, and only because that's where your heart is
- C. 12-Does God know by experience in your life that all that you have is His?
 - 1. Eventually God has to know by experience
 - 2. 12-Is He seeing it or is it just talk?; He'll give you opportunity to prove it
- D. 12-Now I know you value/love me above all else because you've not withheld from me what treasure the most
 - 1. When you withhold things from God, He has to withhold things from you
- E. Heaven found a man who was willing to give all he had to God and consequently they found a man who God could give all he had to him
 - 1. God found out that day that I have place in his life above all else
 - 2. 16-18-That day he qualified for more

VI. The question becomes what are you attached to, where is your heart attached, what do you love more than God?