**Being Rich or Wanting to be Rich**

**Money is a resource that is needed in our societies. It allows us to purchase goods that are in most cases required to function. It is meant to represent worth & value in our society. It should be treated with respect & managed wisely. God clearly understands that we all need money. He even wants to give us money if we seek His way of life. However, don’t let money rule your life or become a god to you. Let God be your true master, not money! There is nothing wrong with seeking wealth through legitimate measure nor is there anything wrong with having nice things, or seeking to improve your life, etc. But don’t forget all of the others who will need YOUR help, and my help along the way. God discusses throughout the bible that he would like for us to have an abundance of life (money is not the only way to have an abundance of life) and to be prosperous. This does not mean that it is God’s will that all who believe become wealthy as for some it can be a stumbling block. He also tells us to look out for the less fortunate and remember the poor, the widows and the orphans. You can have a desire to be rich but it should not come as an obsession and it rules your life over God. Obsession can drive you to do things that are not within God’s will and it can set up traps and falls for your life. Most of the times when God spoke in the bible on the rich or wealthy it appears that it is judgement. However it was judgement to those looked at their wealth and felt that they did not need God and they were oppressing the less fortunate. Let’s see what else the bible says:Top of Form**

[**Matthew 6:24**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6%3A24&version=ESV) **“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.**

[**James 5:1-6**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James+5%3A1-6&version=ESV) **Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ...**

[**Luke 18:25**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+18%3A25&version=ESV) **For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”**

[**Luke 12:33**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+12%3A33&version=ESV) **Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.**

[**Hebrews 13:5**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+13%3A5&version=ESV) **Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”**

[**Mark 12:41-44**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+12%3A41-44&version=ESV) **And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”**

[**1 Timothy 6:10**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+6%3A10&version=ESV) **For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.**

[**1 Timothy 6:17**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+6%3A17&version=ESV) **As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.**

[**Revelation 3:17**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+3%3A17&version=ESV) **For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.**

[**Acts 20:35**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A35&version=ESV) **In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”**

[**Luke 6:24**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+6%3A24&version=ESV) **“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.**

[**Matthew 6:19-21**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6%3A19-21&version=ESV) **“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

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