

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to be “high-minded?”
2. How can we become content?
3. What is wrong with striving to be wealthy?
4. What are the rewards, in this life, of seeking the true riches?
5. Why is it so difficult for men to concentrate on the true riches?
6. How can we use material blessings to enhance God’s work or contribute to His business?

SUMMARY:

We are living in the time of the “now” generation. Young people demand all the luxuries this world has to offer “now.” Such things as new cars, new houses with new furnishings, new campers, etc. which in times past required almost a lifetime to acquire, are expected by the present generation.

The true riches offered to us by God cannot be obtained on the buy-now, pay-later basis. Long range planning with a definite goal in mind is necessary to acquire the true riches. We must lay the foundation and build thereon in this life. This is done by faith in the Living God and following after righteousness, godliness, love, patience, meekness and thankfulness. As we exercise ourselves in these things, the riches of this world with its glamour grow strangely dim and the true and lasting riches become more of a reality.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #5

August 1, 2004

Third Quarter

STEWARDSHIP

LESSON TEXT: 1 Timothy 6:6-21

LESSON SETTING: Written by Paul from Macedonia to Timothy in Ephesus.

TIME: Approximately 65 A.D.

I. FORSAKING MATERIALISM. 1 Timothy 6:6-10

- A. Brings Contentment (vs. 6) Philippians 4:11; Romans 14:17; Hebrews 13:5
- B. Danger of Desiring Riches (vs. 9-10) Deuteronomy 8:13-14; Proverbs 28:20; Mark 4:19

II. FOLLOWING ETERNAL VALUES. 1 Timothy 6:11-16

- A. This Life is Temporary. 1 Chronicles 29:15; James 4:14
- B. Build Now for Eternity (vs. 11) Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 18:28-30; Galatians 6:8

III. FINDING TRUE RICHES. 1 Timothy 6:17-21

- A. Seek at the Source (vs. 17) Amos 5:4; Matthew 6:30; James 1:17
- B. Pursue Wholeheartedly (vs. 18-19) John 6:27; 1 Corinthians 15:58
- C. Hold to Zealously (vs. 20-21) Galatians 5:1; Revelation 2:10

GOLDEN TEXT: IT IS REQUIRED IN STEWARDS, THAT A MAN BE FOUND FAITHFUL.
1 Corinthians 4:2

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Philippians 2:1-16

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Leviticus 8:1-36; 9:1-24;
Matthew 9:9-13;
Luke 6:12-19; 12:1-12

QUARTERLY THEME: Marks of a Christian

TOPIC: DEDICATION

INTRODUCTION:

To be dedicated to God means that all we think, say and do should be done to His honor and glory. Nothing should be for ourselves. We are to surrender self and please God in all things. Pleasing ourselves certainly is not being dedicated to God. Even Christ Himself did what pleased God and came to earth to die for us. He must be our example to follow. As a natural man it is impossible for us to please God, but if we have the mind of Christ (vs. 5) we are given the strength to please Him. It is God who gives us the will to please Him and then the power to do it (vs. 13). What a beautiful verse. We can please Him through His own power that He gives us and not by our own strength. We are to fear lest we try to do it on our own and not in His power. We “work out our own salvation with fear and trembling” (vs. 12b). We are not saved by good works, but we are saved unto good works. (Ephesians 2:10) We are to work that which God works within!

CENTRAL TRUTH: Following Christ means becoming like Him in His self-emptying, His humbling, His obedience.

GOLDEN TEXT: LET THIS MIND BE IN YOU, WHICH WAS ALSO IN CHRIST JESUS.
Philippians 2:5

Jesus is our example of complete obedience to God, the Father and dedication to the work that God had given Him to do, “I must work the works of Him that sent me.” (John 9:4)

When Jesus assigned His work to the disciples, He gave them the promise of His help and presence in their lives. “And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:20)

To be dedicated to God’s service, we need Christ in our hearts and also in our minds.

Dear Jesus, would that I could be
In all things minded like to Thee!
Grant, Saviour that I walk aright
As child and servant in Thy sight!

Thy life shows what my life should be,
A mirror Thou, and Light to me;
But O how far I am away
From Thy true image day by day!

Z.H. 164

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF August 2 - 8

M. Dedication of Possessions. Exodus 36:1-7
T. Dedication to God’s Service. Leviticus 8:1-12
W. Dedication Illustrated. 2 Samuel 23:13-17
T. Obeying the Master. Matthew 9:9-13
F. Fearing God. Luke 12:1-12
S. *Christ’s Example. Philippians 2:1-16
S. Our Response. Philippians 2:12-22