



Christ and Contentment
1 Timothy 6:2b-10
June 13, 2021
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this text God warns the church about the lure of false teachers and the love of money.

The Text: 1 Timothy 6:2b-10

² ... Teach and urge these things. ³ If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, ⁴ he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, ⁵ and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ 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.

Paul approaches the end of his first letter to Timothy's church with two final exhortations:

a) Beware false teachers (vv. 3-5)!

False Teachers "Red Flags":

- (1) Too little Christ*
- (2) Too little godliness*
- (3) Too much self-promotion*
- (4) Too much controversy*
- (5) Too much "benefits package" Christianity*

b) Beware the love of money (vv. 6-10)!

Philippians 4:5-7: "...The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Response

Lord, guard our minds from the lure of false teachers and our hearts from the love of money.

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Timothy 6:2b-10 (“Entrusted to You” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: What does “contentment” look like?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How would “a different doctrine” not agree with “the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ” (v. 3)?
- 4) Why must teachings of a good teacher also be that which “accords with godliness” (v. 3)?
- 5) What are some of the symptoms of false teachers given to us by Paul in vv. 4-5, and how have you seen them displayed in contemporary false teachers?
- 6) What is v. 7 trying to teach us about the disconnect that exists between our lives and material things?
- 7) How can Christians in the richest country in the world actually believe and practice v. 8, and what would it look like?
- 8) How can wealth and possessions cause the problems described in v. 9-10?
- 9) The average household income in the world today is \$9,733. How can our families make five-to-ten times that and not think of ourselves as wealthy?
- 10) How do we know if we love money or if we deal with the temptations of materialism, and how would this passage instruct us to respond?

Further study this week: Passages on contentment: Philippians 4:11-13 (Mon); Proverbs 30:7-9 (Tues); Hebrews 13:5 (Wed); Luke 12:15 (Thurs); 1 Corinthians 7:17, 24 (Fri).