



Luke 16:14 *The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. 15 And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.*

16 *"The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it. 17 But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one dot of the Law to become void. (ESV)*

1. Diagnose _____ (vv.14-15a)

2. Ignore _____ (v.15)

3. Biblically _____ (vv.16-17)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Mark 8:34-38**. After Jesus rebukes Peter for setting his concerns and priorities in the wrong place (v.33), he teaches the crowd this important lesson. As you read it, what “dreams” or “aspirations” are implied which must be given up (vv.34-35), especially in light of the comparison made in v.36?
2. Read **1 John 2:15-17**. List some examples for each of these three categories (listed in the middle of v.16) that are often aspired to or achieved by means of increasing amounts of money?
3. Read **1 Corinthians 3:18-20**. In light of the stern words of Christ in Luke 16:15, what are some of the ways you need to be ready to be considered a fool if you aim at life goals that are important to God?
4. Read **Romans 12:2**. What practical steps can you take to live out the instructions of this important verse?
5. Read **Psalms 52:7-9**. How does this passage help you appreciate the importance of maintaining a heart with a distinct set of values and priorities?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

February 12th

Lev. 14 & Mt. 26:55-75

February 13th

Lev. 15-17 & Mt. 27:1-31

February 14th

Lev. 18-19 & Mt. 27:32-66

February 15th

Lev. 20-21 & Mt. 28:1-20

February 16th

Lev. 22-23 & Mk. 1:1-22

February 17th

Lev. 24-25 & Mk. 1:23-45

February 18th

Lev. 26-27 & Mk. 2

February 19th

Num. 1-2 & Mk. 3:1-21

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

Msg. 16-27 – **Worldly Ambition & Godly Investments**

Msg. 13-36 – **When You're Not Satisfied**

Msg. 15-30 – **Grandiosity**

Msg. 13-13 – **Managing Your Ambitions**

Msg. 13-04 – **The Gospel's Assault on the Egocentric**

Msg. 07-33 – **Sacrifice Instead of Selfishness**

Msg. 07-35 – **Contentment Instead of Materialism**

This Week's Social Media Hashtag

#MoneyMatters

For users of Twitter, Facebook, or other social media sites for the grouping of sermon quotes, helpful insights, or your sharable applications drawn from today's sermon.

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Adams, Jay. **The Biblical View of Self-Esteem, Self-Love & Self-Image**. Harvest House, 1986.

Alcorn, Randy. **Managing God's Money: A Biblical Guide**. Tyndale House, 2011.

Burroughs, Jeremiah. **The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1981.

Getz, Gene. **Rich in Every Way: Everything God Says About Money & Possessions**. Howard Books, 2010.

Henry, Matthew. **The Pleasantness of a Religious Life: A Puritan's View of the Good Life**. Christian Focus, 1998.

Kroll, Woodrow. **Struggling with Selfishness: Choosing to Look Past Yourself**. Back to the Bible, 1996.

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. **A Life of Joy and Peace: An Exposition of Philippians**. Baker Books, 1995.

MacArthur, John. **Anxious for Nothing: God Cares for the Cares of Your Soul**. Victor Books, 2006.

Mack, Wayne A. **Humility: The Forgotten Virtue**. P & R Publishing, 2005.

Mahaney, C. J., et al. **Worldliness: Resisting the Seduction of a Fallen World**. Crossway, 2008.

Scott, Stuart. **From Pride to Humility: A Biblical Perspective**. Focus Publishers, 2003.

Smith, Christian. **Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away More Money**. Oxford Press, 2008.

Watson, Thomas. **The Art of Divine Contentment**. Soli Deo Gloria Publications, 1653 (reprint, 1998).

Wilson, Doug. **Joy at the End of the Tether: The Inscrutable Wisdom of Ecclesiastes**. Canon Press, 1999.