

# Abundant Living: Generous Hearts & Eternal Gain (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

Sunday, January 17, 2010

Pastor Stephen Schultze

## Introduction (1 Timothy 6:8-9; 17a)

We are financially rich when we have any abundance beyond our necessities.

## I. God Gives Serious Warnings for the Abundant Believer.

### A. Don't get caught up with yourself. (17b)

#### Dangers of Wealth:

The desire for wealth is insatiable.

The promises of wealth are deceptive.

The presence of wealth provides additional temptations.

The potential of wealth tends to facilitate selfishness.

The preoccupation with wealth tends to control a person's life.

Scriptures: Luke 18:24

***God is not impressed with your wealth. God wants you!***

### B. Don't get caught up with your riches. (17c)

Scriptures: Proverbs 23:4-5; 2 Corinthians 8:9

***"It is a folly to set one's hopes on what can be so easily lost."***

*(William Barclay).*

#### A Choice of Trust:

##### Trust in God leads to:

Peace (Phil. 4:7, 9)

Service of others (Phil. 4:14-19)

Contentment (Phil. 4:11)

Humility (1 Peter 5:6-7)

Certainty (1 Timothy 4:10)

##### Trust in riches leads to:

Anxiety

Self-centeredness

Restless Greed

Arrogance

Uncertainty

**Don't let the temporary gifts from God blind you  
from the glorious wonder of God!**

## II. God Has Clear Intentions for the Believer's Abundance.

What does God intend for us to do with abundance or riches?

### A. Enjoy them: *Reflecting on God's Provision (v. 17d)*

*Scriptures:* Acts 20:33-35

If God provides the gifts, what do we know about the gifts? (James 1:17)

### B. Employ them: *Participating in God's Mission (v. 18)*

*Scriptures:* 1 Peter 2:9-10, 12; Titus 2:11 & 14

1. **Be Rich In Good Works:** Strikes a blow at the apathy of riches.
  - What is the significance of the use of the word "rich" in this verse?
2. **Be Readily Generous:** This strikes a blow at the self-centeredness of riches.
3. **Be Willing To Share:** This strikes a blow at the isolation of riches.  
What does "share" mean?

**"Those who make the greatest contribution in this life  
are those with their focus on the next life."**

(Dr. Greg Curtis)

## III. God Has Rich Future for the Abundant Believer

- Pleasing God with our "riches" requires faith in action.  
*Scriptures:* Hebrews 11: 6; James 2:17-18
- True faith takes hold of the ultimate and unseen reality in the treasure of Jesus Christ.  
*Scriptures:* John 17:3 ; John 10:10; 1 Tim. 6:13)

***We are SPIRITUALLY rich when we  
ENJOY God's gifts (reflect on God's provision) &  
EMPLOY God's gifts (participate in God's Mission).***

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B. \_\_\_\_\_ them: *Participating in God's Mission (v. 18)*

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1. **Be Rich In Good** \_\_\_\_\_: Strikes a blow at the \_\_\_\_\_ of riches.

- What is the significance of the use of the word "rich" in this verse?

2. **Be Readily** \_\_\_\_\_: Strikes a blow at the \_\_\_\_\_ of riches.

3. **Be Willing To** \_\_\_\_\_: Strikes a blow at the \_\_\_\_\_ of riches.

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