

# Avoid the Deeds of Darkness: Money Issues

## The Deceitfulness and Uncertainty of Riches:

- I. Study through the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:10-23) to answer these questions:
  - a. Which verse mentions the direfulness of riches? \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. What is the Strong's number for the Greek word translated "riches?" \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. What is the definition of this word? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What other negative attribute is mentioned along with the deceitfulness of riches? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. In the parable, the direfulness of riches likened to what? \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. What does the deceitfulness of riches do to the word of God? \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Using your concordance, find the reference to this same parable elsewhere in the Bible: \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. Are there any differences between the various occurrences of this parable? \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Next, study 1 Timothy 6:17-19, then answer these questions.
  - a. Who is Timothy to charge, command or instruct in this section? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What attitude should they NOT have? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. In what should they NOT set their hope (or trust)? \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Where should they put their hope (or trust)? \_\_\_\_\_

- e. What actions can they take to store up treasures for themselves as a good foundation for the future?
  - i. \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. \_\_\_\_\_
  - iv. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. They are to take hold of what? \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Interpretation question: Does this section teach that having riches is evil? Please explain your answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III. Please take a look through James 5:1-6 in order to answer these questions:

- a. Are the rich people mentioned in this section righteous or unrighteous? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. What actions did they take which lead you to this conclusion? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. What happened to their wealth and costly things? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. What have they done to the righteous person? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**The Danger of Riches:**

- I. Study Matthew 10:17-31 for these questions:
  - a. Which verse says the young man was rich? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What is the question the young man asks Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. What does Jesus say that disheartened the young man? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- d. What does Jesus say that amazed His disciples? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - e. What comparison does Jesus make in verse 35? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - f. The key to this conversation is in verse 27. What is the key to understanding this section? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - g. In the gospel of Luke, find the reference where this account is recorded: \_\_\_\_\_
- II. According to Acts 24:24-27; for what reason did Felix often send for Paul to converse with him? \_\_\_\_\_
- III. According to 1 Timothy 3, if a man had a love of money, from which work would he be disqualified? \_\_\_\_\_
- IV. Hebrews 13:5-6 tells us to keep our lives free from what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- a. What alternative is given? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What reason is given for this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Comparison of Earthly Wealth and True Wealth:**

- I. Study Matthew 6:19-24 for the answers to these questions:
- a. What happens to earthly treasures? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Does this happen to heavenly treasures? Please explain your answer:  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. What reason is given for why we should store up treasures in heaven?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - d. If a person is focused on gaining earthly wealth, then their eye will be full of:  God's light  the world's darkness
  - e. Which two masters are mentioned in verse 24? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - f. Is it possible for a person to serve both? \_\_\_\_\_

- II. Next we will study Mark 12:41-44 for this next section:
- a. Where does this conversation take place? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What two people are contrasted? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. What was the difference between the two gifts? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Which one does Jesus praise and for what reason? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- III. We will now look at three passages from the book of Acts which highlight this comparison between earthly riches and heavenly riches:
- a. In Acts 3:1-10, the man Peter and John encountered was begging. Why? \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. What did he want from the Apostles, and which verse records this? \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. What did Peter give him instead? \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. What did the man immediately do with this gift? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. What was the result of this among the people who had seen it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. In Acts 8:14-24, who was reprimanded by Peter in this section? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
    - i. What did this person try to buy from the Apostles? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. What did Peter tell this person to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. In Acts 19:18-20, what had the believers been practicing before they became Christians? \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. What were they burning? \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. What was the value of these items? \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. As a result of this, what grew mightily? \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Who is speaking in Acts 20:31-36? \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. To whom is he speaking? \_\_\_\_\_

- ii. What attitude did he have regarding the wealth of others? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- iii. His needs were provided for in what way? \_\_\_\_\_
- iv. What reason does he give for doing this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. Who is under discussion in Hebrews 11:23-29? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Which verse mentions riches? \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. What two types of riches or treasure are mentioned?  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. Which type did the person under discussion view as more valuable? \_\_\_\_\_
  - iv. Why did he hold this view? \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Look at 1 Peter 1:17-19 for these questions:
  - i. From what were we bought back, according to this section? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. We were NOT bought back with what? \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. With what WERE we bought back? \_\_\_\_\_

**Stewardship of Money:**

- I. Study the parable in Matthew 25:14-30 for these questions:
  - a. Is this parable primarily about the use of money? Please explain your answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The man who was given five talents did what with them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. How did the master react to this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - d. The man who was given two talents did what with them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - e. How did the master react to this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- f. The man who was given one talent did what with it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - g. How did the master react to this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - h. The master tells this man he should have done what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - i. What point does Jesus make with the parable in verse 29? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - j. Please give the reference for where this parable is found in Luke's gospel: \_\_\_\_\_
- II. In Acts 4:33-37, what were people doing with their lands and houses? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- a. For what reason were they doing this? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Who is mentioned by name as a good example of this? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Long answer question: In Acts Chapter 5, who is given as a bad example of this? Why did they do what they did? And what happened to them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Accounts of money being used:**

In the following passages, record who used money and how it was used. Furthermore, record if this usage was righteous, unrighteous or neutral.

- I. Who used money in Matthew 17:24-27? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. This money was used for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Was this use of money righteous, unrighteous or neutral? \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Who used money in Matthew 26:14-16? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. This money was used for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Was this use of money righteous, unrighteous or neutral? \_\_\_\_\_

- III. Who used money in Matthew 27:3-10? \_\_\_\_\_  
a. This money was used for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Was this use of money righteous, unrighteous or neutral? \_\_\_\_\_
- IV. Who used money in Matthew 28:11-15? \_\_\_\_\_  
a. This money was used for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Was this use of money righteous, unrighteous or neutral? \_\_\_\_\_
- V. Who used money in Luke 9:1-6? \_\_\_\_\_  
a. This money was used for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Was this use of money righteous, unrighteous or neutral? \_\_\_\_\_
- VI. Who used money in Acts 7:14-19? \_\_\_\_\_  
a. This money was used for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Was this use of money righteous, unrighteous or neutral? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Difficult passage for personal study:**

In Luke 16, Jesus gives a parable regarding the use of wealth which can be difficult to understand. Study this chapter on your own. Feel free to reference other passages, check commentaries, or even ask mature Christians to help you understand this section. Write out your findings as if you were explaining this section to another person.

Questions to help you in your study:

- I. Do the parables surrounding this section give you any insight into the purpose of this parable?
- II. The statements Jesus made in verses 17 and 18 are:  
 part of the explanation of the parable     disconnected from it
- III. Do the other gospels contain parables or statements that help to clarify this section?