

“LOVE OF MONEY”

(I Tim. 6:10)

“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil: which some reaching after have been led astray from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows,” I Tim. 6:10. Many times have I been told: *“Money is the root of all kinds of evil!”* Yet, this is not what the Bible teaches – *“For the **love** of money is a root of all kinds of evil,”* I Tim. 6:10.

When preaching or teaching about riches, it is often heard, *“Riches will cause a man to be lost!”* When Jesus was teaching concerning riches, Matt. 19:23: *“It is hard for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven.”* And then states, *“It is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God,”* Matt. 23:24. Someone has wisely said we need to consider the “text,” the “context,” and the “extended text” to note all that God has said about the subject. Well, in Mk. 10:24, we have an “extended text” and it is added, *“Children, how hard is it for them that **trust** in riches to enter into the kingdom of God,”* Now, we know it is not just a person being rich; but rather, the rich man who **“TRUST”** in his riches – there is a difference!

There were many **“rich righteous men”** of old and they were pleasing and acceptable to God. Look at Abraham, Job, Solomon (before he departed from the Lord), etc. There were rich men in the New Testament but the rich men who were pleasing to the Lord did not **“TRUST”** in their riches. God came first, in their lives, and all else second.

In Matt. 19:16-22, a young religious man who was wealthy, kept the commandments of the Law of Moses, yet he loved his riches more than he did the Lord. *“He went away sorrowfully; for he was one that had great possessions.”* Matt. 19:22. This man’s love for his possessions caused him to lose his soul. Another place to consider one who loved his riches, Lk. 12:13-21, all the emphasis is placed on a whole bunch of **“I’s”** and a lot of **“my’s.”** This man was in **love** with his “barns,” his “grain,” and his “goods.” The last thing he thought of that was in his life, became the most important being of all, **GOD!** *“This night is thy soul required of thee; and the things which thou hast prepared, whose shall they be?”*

In I Tim. 6:10 they brought all of the **“sorrows”** upon themselves! The sorrows were imposed upon themselves because of their “trusting in riches.” May I consider one thought as an example? In Matt. 19:16-22 we have one being lost because of his **“trusting in riches.”** This man became lost and will hear, on the day of judgment, *“depart from me,”* Matt. 25:41. This is sorrow brought upon themselves, by themselves! They themselves are responsible for what happened – *“pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”*

In I Tim. 6:10 when the expression *“is a root of all kinds of evil,”* is used, it should not be thought that all evil is the result of a love for money.” That is not what Paul is saying. He is simply saying that “from the love of money comes all **kinds** of evil.” There is other evil that does not come from *“the love of money.”* Should we not be reminded that God is to be first in our lives? Matt. 22:37. Caa

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