

Faith over Finances

Text: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Context - In Paul's first letter to Timothy he helps the young pastor to establish a strong foundation at the megachurch in Ephesus. Now, in his final instructions, Paul warns Timothy how to instruct those who are rich.

As you trust God with your finances...

1. _____ your hope on God (vs. 17)

- A. If your hope is in the riches you possess "in the present age," you have forgotten that money can't deliver. "The uncertainty of wealth" means it cannot be depended upon, either in this age or the one to come. Instead, we must set our hope on God. We must not expect money to do what only God can. Tony Evans.
- B. Those who have much tend to trust in their wealth (cf. Prov. 23:4, 5). But God provides far more security than any earthly investment can ever give (Eccl. 5:18–20; Matt. 6:19–21). John MacArthur.

2. _____ opportunities for generosity (vs. 18)

- A. How can the rich safeguard their hearts? How does a Christian to whom God has given wealth position himself so that he is not taken captive by arrogance? Paul tells Timothy the antidote: to be generous and willing to share. Tony Evans.
- B. Believers are to act toward others with the same generous love that moved God to act so richly toward them. Like the Macedonians commended by Paul in 2 Corinthians 8:1–4, they must give sacrificially from an open and unrestrained heart. John MacArthur

3. _____ treasures in Heaven (vs. 19)

- A. Earthly wealth is uncertain no matter how hard you strive (6:17). Spiritual wealth, stored up through "godliness with contentment" (6:6), is guaranteed. With this heavenly mindset, you will experience great gain—you will take hold of what is truly life in the spiritual fulfillment that God gives and the future kingdom rewards earned. Tony Evans
- B. We set our sights on giving, not hoarding; on sacrificing, not indulging. We store up treasure for ourselves as a good foundation "for the age to come," so that we "may take hold of life that is real" (v. 19). David Platt