

1 Timothy 6:3-11

LESSON 24

Corruption, Contentment, and Covetousness

1. 1 Timothy 6:3-5 – Withdraw Thyself from Corruption

- a. This epistle teaches Tim to deal with problems: doctrinal, sin, leadership, money
- b. These are bold judgments of these non-consenters that corrupt instead of purify
- c. *“from such withdraw thyself”* is ignored because it is the opposite of gain
- d. How do you get to be corrupt? What is corrupt? – Gal 6:8, 1Tim 6:5, 2 Tim 3:8
- e. 3 Ways that Lead to Corruption: Jude 10-11 (for definition)
 - i. Cain (Gen 4): created his own religion – self-righteousness, envy, pride
 1. “I am good”, “my desires are good”, “my works are worthy”
 - ii. Balaam (Num 22-24) – received benefits to compromise, greedy, covetous
 1. “I deserve”, “I need”, “I must have”, “more is better”, “gain is godly”
 - iii. Core (Korah – Num 16) – usurp/undermine God’s words/authority, gainsay
 1. “hath God said”, “what right does he have”

2. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 – Godliness with Contentment

- a. Godliness has come up frequently – 1Ti 2:2, 2:10, 3:16, 4:7-8, 6:3, and here 6:5-6
 - i. Purity comes up a lot, too – 1 Ti 1:5, 3:9, 4:12, 5:2, 5:22
- b. What keeps us from corruption? Godliness – the mind of Christ – Phil 2
 - i. Grace – Knowing the grace of God, that we are unworthy
 - ii. Faithfulness – Holding fast to the truth with integrity, unto death and loss
 - iii. Truth – Doing all things without murmur/complaint – learn to be content
- c. The new thing here is not godliness, but contentment – Phil 2:21
 - i. Ministers must learn this, approving themselves - Phil 4:11, 2Co 6:10, 1Ti 3:8
 - ii. *“what profit?”* – A question answered in Ecclesiastes and Mark 8:36
 - iii. Contentment ~*def.* Rest/quietness/peace of mind; not disturbed, pleased, fulfilled, satisfied; so as not to repine, object, or oppose.
 - iv. *“we brought nothing...”* – a reference to Ecc 5:15
 - v. Why food and raiment? – Deu 8:3-4; Deu 10:17-18; Gen 28:20; Ecc 3:13

3. 1 Timothy 6:9-11 – The Love of Money

- a. *“that will be rich”* – Both rich and poor fall into this trap – Ecc 5:10, Pro 30:8-9
- b. *“love of money”* - Not dollar bills, business, making a profit, working, business
- c. *“The root of all evil”* ?? → Yes, consider the wisdom also in Prov 13:10; Heb 11:6;
- d. The oldest and only command - *“thou shalt not covet”* – Deu 16:19, Col 3:5
 - i. A temptation & snare Matt 4:3-4; Ministries/lives are destroyed by vain love
 - ii. 2 Pet 2:15 describes those who love the wages of unrighteousness
- e. Num 22-24 – Balaam is associated with this corruption – Num 22:17, 24:11, 25:1
 - i. Why did Balaam persist, sell out, and compromise – Num 31:16, Rev 2:14
- f. (6:11) *“follow after”* these spiritual things that cannot be purchased with money