

A silhouette of a person stands on a mountain peak, arms raised in a gesture of triumph or prayer. The background features a vast mountain range under a dramatic sky with a bright, low sun creating a golden glow and long shadows. The overall mood is one of achievement and spiritual victory.

Winning The Battle Over Greed

I Timothy 6:6-10 and 17-19

Enter I Timothy 6:6-8 (read)

Godliness + Contentment= Great Gain

The Meaning:

A consistent, authentic walk with God + An attitude of satisfaction and peace within= That which constitutes great wealth

How do you win the battle over greed?

The Meaning of Contentment:

“Be on your guard against every form of greed” (Luke 12:15).

“Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will ever forsake you,” so that we confidently say, “The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What shall man do to me?” (Heb. 13:5-6)

The Meaning of Godliness: v.6

Being godly is to live one's life with Christ in clear focus, to have a prevailing desire to obey Him, to take Him seriously regardless, and to deliberately pursue holiness. (Swindoll)

Paul gives us the benefits of a life of generosity:

1) We Hold The Things of This World Loosely: v.7

2) We Keep Our Essentials to a Minimum: v.8

3) We Learn to Withstand the Allure of Greed: v.9-10

Solomon said: “A faithful man will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished....A stingy man is eager to get rich and is unaware that poverty awaits him.” (Prov. 28:20, 22) NIV

4) We Cultivate a Lifestyle That Is Truly Joyful: v.17-19

a) Avoid being conceited:

Isaiah gives us words of advice; “Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.”

b) Don't fix your hope on a false security:

Proverbs 23:4-5; "Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle." (NIV)

c) We need to see our possessions as belonging to God and given by Him for His glory and our enjoyment:

Here is how we multiply our joy:

First, “do good” (v.18).

Second, “be rich in good works...be generous” (v.18).

Third, “be...ready to share” (v.18)

Fourth, store up “the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that you may take hold of that which is life indeed.” (v.19)