

Staying Clean From Covetousness Part I

What Is Covetousness?

A. I Tim 6:10 A Warning From the Lord

1. “Be very cautious to stay completely clean from covetousness. First Timothy 6:10 must live in the forefront of your thinking.
2. Luke 12:15 Take heed and beware of covetousness.
 - a. (AMP) Guard yourselves and keep free from covetousness.
 - b. (GNB) Watch out and guard yourselves.
3. This warning applies to all.
 - a. The rich
 - b. The poor
 - c. Everyone in between
4. Paul is not condemning the ambition to excel in a noble endeavor that produces increase. He is, however, sending a stern warning against the love of money.
5. We must deal with the issue of covetousness in order to go up to our wealthy place—a place lifted up—a place in God already planned and prepared for us here and now.

B. I Tim 6:10 - Various Translations

1. (ALT) For the love of money is a root of all evils, of which some by longing for [it] went astray [or wandered away] from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
2. (ASV) 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.
3. (BBE) For the love of money is a root of all evil: and some whose hearts were fixed on it have been turned away from the faith, and been wounded with unnumbered sorrows.
4. (CEV) The love of money causes all kinds of trouble. Some people want money so much that they have given up their faith and caused themselves a lot of pain.
5. (GNB) For the love of money is a source of all kinds of evil. Some have been so eager to have it that they have wandered away from the faith and have broken their hearts with many sorrows.
6. (GW) Certainly, the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people who have set their hearts on getting rich have wandered away from the Christian faith and have caused themselves a lot of grief.
7. (MSG) Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after.

8. (RSV) For the love of money is the root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced their hearts with many pangs.
9. (WNT) For from the love of money all sorts of evils arise; and some have so hankered after money as to be led astray from the faith and be pierced through with countless sorrows.
10. (GK) For a root of all the evils is the fondness for money, which certain ones, bending their every effort to grasp have been led astray from the faith and have pierced themselves through with many consuming griefs.

C. What Is Covetousness?

1. I Tim 6:10 - Translations
 - a. Longing for money
 - b. Reaching after money
 - c. Hearts fixed on money
 - d. Want money so much
 - e. Eagerness for money
 - f. Set their hearts on getting rich
 - g. Lust for money
 - h. Craving for money
 - i. Hankering for money
 - j. Bending every effort to grasp money
2. Covet (GK) PLEON – EKTES
 - a. PLEON = more
 - b. EKTES = have
 - c. To have more at the expense of others.
3. Other definitions
 - a. A lover of money
 - i. Total attention
 - ii. Total affection
 - iii. Total devotion
 - iv. Total dependency
 - v. Total trust
 - b. Excessive desire to acquire
 - c. Extreme drive for wealth
 - d. Insatiable appetite for riches
 - e. Wrongful longing for gain
 - f. Unconquerable craving for appropriation
 - g. Morbid lust for acquisition
 - h. Miserly, stingy, selfish
 - i. To hoard and accumulate

4. Prov 21:24-26 Greed
 - a. Vs 26 (KJV) He coveted greedily all day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.
 - b. Vs. 26 (NLT) Some people are always greedy for more, while the godly love to give!
 - c. I Tim 6:10 (HNV) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
 - d. Greed is rooted in fear.
 - i. Poor—never will have it
 - ii. Rich—got to hold onto it
5. Gain through covetousness is a sorry replacement for Covenant provision.
 - a. Babylon system (greed) versus Kingdom of God system (generosity)
 - b. Take and hold onto versus sow and reap
 - c. Ex 20:17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife. Why? Because God will get you a great one of your own!
 - d. Phil 4:19 My God shall supply—fill to the full—all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
 - e. Deut 8:18 But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that gives thee the power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto the fathers, as it is today.
 - f. I Tim 6:17-19 (NLT) Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.
 - g. Prov 10:22 (NLT) THE BLESSING of the Lord makes a person rich and he adds no sorrow to it.