

## The Deceptive Corruption of Money *(Letter to Laodicea)*

January 8, 2015

### Revelation 3:14–22

14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 **I KNOW THY WORKS, THAT THOU ART NEITHER COLD NOR HOT: I WOULD THOU WERT COLD OR HOT.**

16 **SO THEN BECAUSE THOU ART LUKEWARM, AND NEITHER COLD NOR HOT, I WILL SPUE THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH.**

17 **BECAUSE THOU SAYEST, I AM RICH, AND INCREASED WITH GOODS, AND HAVE NEED OF NOTHING; AND KNOWEST NOT THAT THOU ART WRETCHED, AND MISERABLE, AND POOR, AND BLIND, AND NAKED:**

18 **I COUNSEL THEE TO BUY OF ME GOLD TRIED IN THE FIRE, THAT THOU MAYEST BE RICH; AND WHITE RAIMENT, THAT THOU MAYEST BE CLOTHED, AND THAT THE SHAME OF THY NAKEDNESS DO NOT APPEAR; AND ANOINT THINE EYES WITH EYESALVE, THAT THOU MAYEST SEE.**

19 **AS MANY AS I LOVE, I REBUKE AND CHASTEN: BE ZEALOUS THEREFORE, AND REPENT.**

20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

- *Prosperity and wealth can deceive the heart with the delusion of self-sufficiency, pride and power.*
- *Prosperity and wealth can blind our hearts and minds to the depths of our neediness.*
- *It is ETERNALLY better to suffer need and adversity in this life to stay convinced of our need and dependence upon God, rather than become independent from God through the pride of wealth.*
- *Any blessing, provision or resource that we have is from God and God alone. It is great deception to think that our power, efforts or abilities obtained those things for us.*
- *Wealth and money are dangerous in both the PURSUIT of and the POSSESSION of.*

### 1 Timothy 6:6–11

6 But **GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT IS GREAT GAIN.**

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 **AND HAVING FOOD AND RAIMENT LET US BE THEREWITH CONTENT.**

9 **BUT THEY THAT WILL BE RICH FALL INTO TEMPTATION AND A SNARE, AND INTO MANY FOOLISH AND HURTFUL LUSTS, WHICH DROWN MEN IN DESTRUCTION AND PERDITION.**

10 **FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL: WHICH WHILE SOME COVETED AFTER, THEY HAVE ERRED FROM THE FAITH, AND PIERCED THEMSELVES THROUGH WITH MANY SORROWS.**

11 **BUT THOU, O MAN OF GOD, FLEE THESE THINGS;** and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

**Deuteronomy 8:7–20**

7 For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;

9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.

10 **WHEN THOU HAST EATEN AND ART FULL, THEN THOU SHALT BLESS THE LORD THY GOD** for the good land which he hath given thee.

11 **BEWARE THAT THOU FORGET NOT THE LORD THY GOD**, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

12 Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein;

13 And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

14 **THEN THINE HEART BE LIFTED UP, AND THOU FORGET THE LORD THY GOD**, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

17 **AND THOU SAY IN THINE HEART, MY POWER AND THE MIGHT OF MINE HAND HATH GOTTEN ME THIS WEALTH.**

18 **BUT THOU SHALT REMEMBER THE LORD THY GOD: FOR IT IS HE THAT GIVETH THEE POWER TO GET WEALTH, THAT HE MAY ESTABLISH HIS COVENANT** which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

19 And it shall be, **IF THOU DO AT ALL FORGET THE LORD THY GOD, AND WALK AFTER OTHER GODS**, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that **YE SHALL SURELY PERISH.**

20 As the nations which the LORD destroyeth before your face, **SO SHALL YE PERISH**; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God.