

God and Greed

Do you wish you had more money?

What does God think of greed?

How should we seek to live as his people in our society?

What is Greed?

... the DESIRE for more wealth.

Greed is a heart problem.

So is it only excessive Greed that is bad for us?

Greed and God

Luke 12:15, "watch out, be on your guard against all kinds of greed. A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions"

Mark 7:20-22 ...greed makes us unclean and cuts us off from God.

1 Tim 6 ... "love of money as the root of all kinds of evil".

Col 3:5, "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature; sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry."

"I want to give my love, my trust, my source of security, to another and I will seek pleasure in something else besides God".

Deut 6:10-12 "be careful that you do not forget the Lord who bought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the land of slavery".

Proverbs 30:7-9, "Two things I ask of you, O Lord. Do not refuse me before I die; Keep falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the Lord", or I may become poor and steal and so dishonour the name of my God"

Mat 6:19-24. "You cannot serve both God and money."

How should we combat our own tendencies to greed?

Firstly – CONTENTMENT

1 Tim 6:6, "Godliness with contentment is of great gain"

... exercise our trust in God

1 Tim 6:17, "richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment".

Secondly - BE GENEROUS.

1 Tim 6:18, a command to be generous and willing to share

Challenge 1 – Practice contentment

... give to gospel hearted Christ centred mission like Barnabas Fund.

Challenge 2– Increase generosity.

- **Our struggle not to covet** – <http://matthiasmedia.com/briefing/2002/01/this-present-age-our-struggle-not-to-covet/>
- **The Christian practice of Becoming poorer** – <http://matthiasmedia.com/briefing/2000/03/not-keeping-up-with-the-joneses-the-christian-practice-of-becoming-poorer/>
- **The Christian and money** - <http://matthiasmedia.com/briefing/2000/03/the-christian-and-money/>