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# INVINCIBLE

CONQUERING THE MOUNTAINS  
THAT SEPARATE YOU  
FROM THE BLESSED LIFE

## "MOVING FROM MATERIALISM TO CONTENTMENT"

PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13

**Introduction:** Materialism is nothing more or less than the continual pursuit of “more.” But, although this craving is part of our DNA, it is another “mountain” that blocks us from the blessed life God wants us to experience. Today, we are going to discover how to move from materialism to contentment.

### I. What Is Materialism?

Colossians 3:5 “Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.”

Matthew 6:24 “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and wealth.”

### II. Why Some People Worship Money

#### A. Money Promises Security (Luke 12:16-21)

Luke 12:16-19 <sup>16</sup> “Jesus told them a parable, saying, ‘The land of a rich man was very productive. <sup>17</sup> And he began reasoning to himself, saying, “What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?” <sup>18</sup> Then he said, “This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.’”

Luke 12:20-21 <sup>20</sup> “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?’ <sup>21</sup> So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Ecclesiastes 2:18-19 <sup>18</sup> “Thus I hated all the fruit of my labor for which I had labored under the sun, for I must leave it to the man who will come after me. <sup>19</sup> And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the fruit of my labor for which I have labored by acting wisely under the sun. This too is vanity.”

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Proverbs 23:4-5 <sup>4</sup> “Do not weary yourself to gain wealth, cease from your consideration of it. <sup>5</sup> When you set your eyes on it, it is gone. For wealth certainly makes itself wings like an eagle that flies toward the heavens.”

**B. Money Promises Peace** (Ecclesiastes 5:11-12)

Ecclesiastes 5:11-12 <sup>11</sup> “When good things increase, those who consume them increase. So what is the advantage to their owners except to look on? <sup>12</sup> The sleep of the working man is pleasant, whether he eats little or much; but the full stomach of the rich man does not allow him to sleep.”

**C. Money Promises Fulfillment** (1 Timothy 6:9-10)

1 Timothy 6:9-10 <sup>9</sup> “But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

**III. Three Biblical Admonitions About Money****A. Appreciate Money Without Worshipping It** (Luke 12:15)

Luke 12:15 “Then He [Jesus] said to them [disciples], ‘Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.’”

**B. Save Money Without Hoarding It** (Ecclesiastes 5:13)

Ecclesiastes 5:13 “There is a grievous evil which I have seen under the sun: riches being hoarded by their owner to his hurt.”

**1. We should save money to provide for our future needs.**  
(Proverbs 6:6-8)

Proverbs 6:6-8 <sup>6</sup> “Go to the ant, O sluggard, observe her ways and be wise, which, <sup>7</sup> while having no chief, officer or ruler, <sup>8</sup> prepares her food in the summer and gathers her provision in the harvest.”

**2. We should save to provide for our families.** (1 Timothy 5:8)

1 Timothy 5:8 "But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

**3. We should save to protect against adversity.** (Genesis 41:34-35)

Genesis 41:34-35 <sup>34</sup> "Let Pharaoh take action to appoint overseers in charge of the land, and let him exact a fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven years of abundance. <sup>35</sup> Then let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming, and store up the grain for food in the cities under Pharaoh's authority, and let them guard it."

**4. We should save to fund ministry needs.** (1 Corinthians 16:2)

1 Corinthians 16:2 "On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come."

**C. Use Money Without Trusting It** (Proverbs 18:11)

Proverbs 18:11 "A rich man's wealth is his strong city, and like a high wall in his own imagination."

**IV. Moving From Materialism To Contentment**

1 Timothy 6:6 "Godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment."

Philippians 4:10-13 <sup>10</sup> "But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned before, but you lacked opportunity. <sup>11</sup> Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. <sup>12</sup> I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

**A. Contentment Comes When We Learn to Thank God for What We Already Have** (1 Timothy 6:7-10)

1 Timothy 6:8 “If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.”

Deuteronomy 8:18 “But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth [money], that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”

**B. Contentment Comes from Recognizing the Dangers of Materialism** (1 Timothy 6:9-10)

1 Timothy 6:9-10 <sup>9</sup> “But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

1. **“Snare”**
2. **“Foolish and harmful desires”**
3. **“Ruin and destruction”**

**C. Contentment Comes From Remembering How Temporary Our Possessions Are** (1 Timothy 6:7)

1 Timothy 6:7 “For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.”

Luke 12:20-21 “But God said to him [rich man] ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?’ So is the man who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Conclusion