

“The Love of Money”

The Sermon God Wrote #47

Hebrews 13:5-6

October 2, 2016

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 13:5-6

Introduction

- How do you feel about money?
- Much unhealthy relationship with money

Big idea: Money provides a powerful look into the human heart. As we experience more of the riches of God’s grace and mercy, we worship Jesus more and idolize money less.

I. Image & Worship | vs. 5a

1. Humans are image-bearers | Genesis 1:27
2. Image-bearers are never neutral | Romans 1:21-23
 - a. G.K. Beale — God has made humans to reflect him, but if they do not commit themselves to him, they will not reflect him but something else in creation. At the core of our beings we are imaging creatures. It is not possible to be neutral on this issue: we either reflect the Creator or something in creation.
3. Imaging flows into worship | Matthew 6:21 (loving, trusting, investing)
4. Worship vs. idolatry | Exodus 20:3-4
5. We become like what we worship | Psalm 115:4-8, Romans 12:1-2

Q. Why this whole discussion about imaging and worshipping?

A. Money often becomes a God | Matthew 6:24

II. What Do You Fear? | vs. 5b-6

1. Our wrong responses:
 - a. Grumbling about money
 - b. Greedy with money
 - c. Money as god
2. Our sinful fears
 - a. Loss of stability and security
 - b. Loss of power and control
 - c. Loss of safety and belonging
3. God’s Generous Grace | 2 Corinthians 8:9
 - a. Jesus is our security
 - b. Jesus is control
 - c. Jesus is our safety

III. Walking It Out Practically

1. Keep your life free from the love of money, not money
2. God gives so that we can give | Hebrews 10:34, 13:16
3. Seek to be a faithful steward: providing for family, saving, helping the poor, supporting the church