

THE ELDERS AND RICHES

I Timothy 6:9-12

Intro:

- A. Some in the Ephesian Church would oppose the things Paul tells Timothy to teach.
 - 1. They were aspiring to be law teachers.
 - 2. They involved themselves in minutiae.
- B. Paul has taught Timothy that those elders who did a good work were to be twice honored.
 - 1. They were to be respected.
 - 2. They were to be paid well.
- C. Some elders would use their office as a means to get advantage and make money.
 - 1. Vs 5 "**Supposing that gain is godliness**"
 - 2. Some went further and desired to be rich.

I. Those Who Desire To Be Rich.

- A. Vs 9 "**But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare...**"
 - 1. "Rich" = πλουτεω = "to be wealthy".
 - 2. "Fall into" = εμπιπτω = "to fall in" The construction indicated that it is the usual thing.
 - 3. "Temptation" = πειρασμος = "temptation".
 - 4. "Snare" = παχισ = "a trap".
 - 5. "Will be" = βουλομαι = "to purpose".
 - 6. But those who purpose to become rich succumb to temptation and fall into the net or trap.
- B. "**...and into many foolish and hurtful lusts,...**"
 - 1. "Foolish" = ανοητος = "never applying the mind".
 - 2. "Hurtful" = βλαβερως = "disabling", "weakening".
 - 3. "Lusts" = επιθυμια = "a desire or passion that fastens itself upon something".
- C. "**...which drown men in destruction and perdition.**"
 - 1. "Drown" = βοθιζω = "to sink in the sea".

2. "Destruction" = ολεθρος = "ruin", "that which causes death".
3. "Perdition" = απωλεια = "loss", "destruction", "an utter and final ruin that will not be reversed".

II. Loving Money, The Root System Of All Kinds Of Evil.

- A. Vs 10 "For the love of money is the root of all evil;..."
1. "Love of money" = φιλαρφγυρια = "love of money".
 2. "Root" = ριζα = "root".
 3. "Evil" = κακα = pl. = "all kinds of evil".
 4. "For loving money leads to all kinds of evil"
PHI
- B. "...which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith..."
1. "Coveted after" = ορεγομαι = "to reach out for something".
 2. "Erred" = αποπλαναω = "to lead astray".
- C. "...and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."
1. "Pierced" = περιπειρω = "to pierce over and over", "to stab through and through completely".
 2. "Sorrows" = οδυνη = "pain of body", "then pain of mind", "distress".

III. What The Thinking Elder Should Do. Vs 11

- A. "But thou, O man of God, flee these things;..."
1. "Flee" = φευγω = "to take flight", "to fly".
 2. "But you, O man of God, must fly clear of all these possible hurts..."
- B. "...and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."
1. "Follow after" = διωκω = "to hunt", "to pursue".
 2. "Righteousness" = δικαιοσυνη = "the doing and being of what is right and good".

3. "Godliness" = ευσεβεια = "real, true, and vital relationship with God".
 4. "Faith" = πιστιν = "firm persuasion".
 5. "Love" = αγαπε = "love like God's".
 6. "Patience" = ὑπομονη = "endurance".
 7. "Meekness" = πραυπαθεια = "suffering meekly".
- D. Vs 12 **"Fight the good fight of faith..."**
1. "Fight" = αγωνιζομαι = "to carry on a contest", "to strive", "to struggle".
 2. "Keep up the good fight for the faith" - WMS
 3. He was to turn the "inward things".
- E. **"...lay hold on eternal life..."**
1. "Lay hold" = επιλαμβανομαι = "to get a good grip upon", "to seize in one's hands".
 2. Timothy already had eternal life. He was to make it and the directing of others toward it the most important thing in his life.
- F. **"...whereunto thou art also called..."**
1. "You were called to eternal life"
 2. "To which God called you" - GSPD
- G. **"...and professed a good profession before many witnesses."**
1. "Professed" = ὁμολογεω = "to say the same thing with another".
 2. Timothy had agreed with all that God had revealed about Himself, Jesus, and Timothy. He had made these statements before many people.