YOU CAN’T TAKE IT WITH YOU

Coming to Terms with Reality – Part 7

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**1 Timothy 6:6-7 (NIV) – Memory Verse**  
But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

**Ecclesiastes 5:8-20 – Scripture Reading**

There’s an old Japanese proverb that says, “Getting money is like digging with a needle; spending it is like water soaking into sand.” We all nod in agreement. Who hasn’t known the struggle of financial frustrations? And even those who have plenty become disillusioned because money does not satisfy. As Seneca the Roman once stated, “Money has never yet made anyone rich.” But on we go, pushing and striving, planning and struggling to earn more so we can have more, then invest more and enjoy more. Fat chance! The more time we spend earning more money to buy more stuff, the less time we have to enjoy our stuff. Solomon addressed this dilemma in the verses we will examine in this message.

**PRINCIPLES TO LEARN: The Deceptiveness of Wealth (Eccl. 5:8-12)**

1. Regarding **Oppression**

2. Regarding **Dissatisfaction**

3. Regarding **Frustration**

**EVILS TO REMEMBER (Eccl. 5:13-17)**

1. **Those Who Have Clutched Riches Can Quickly Crash**

2. **Those Who Have Lived High Often Die Hard**

**THREE GIFTS FROM GOD TO CLAIM (Eccl. 5:18-20)**

1. Claim **This Gift Of Enjoyment In Your Life**

2. Claim **The Gift Of Fullfillment In Your Work**

3. Claim **The Gift Of Contentment In Your Heart Money Is A Tool To Help You Bring Glory To God**

Without Christ at the center of our lives, the desire for money leads only to disillusionment and dissatisfaction. Are you expending your energy to obtain wealth? Or are you enjoying your job and resources as God’s gifts to you?