

VERSES ON GREED

Exodus 20:17 17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, his male servant, his female servant, his ox, his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 17 Beware lest you say in your heart, My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth. 18 You shall remember Yahweh your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Job 27:16-23 16 Though [the wicked man] heap up silver like dust, and pile up clothing like clay, 17 he may pile it up, but the righteous will wear it, and the innocent will divide the silver. 18 He builds his house like a moth's, like a booth that a watchman makes. 19 He goes to bed rich, but will do so no more. He opens his eyes, and his wealth is gone. 20 Terrors overtake him like a flood. In the night a whirlwind carries him off. 21 The east wind lifts him up and he is gone. It sweeps him out of his place. 22 It hurls at him without pity. He flees from its power in headlong flight. 23 It claps its hands at him and hisses at him from its place.

Job 31:24-28 24 If I have made gold my trust or called fine gold my confidence, 25 if I have rejoiced because my wealth was abundant or because my hand had found much, ...28 this also would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges, for I would have been false to God above.

Psalms 49:16-17 16 Be not afraid when a man becomes rich, when the glory of his house increases. 17 For when he dies he will carry nothing away. His glory will not go down after him.

Psalms 62:10 10 Put no trust in extortion. Set no vain hopes on robbery. If riches increase, set not your heart on them.

Proverbs 10:22 22 The blessing of Yahweh makes rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

Proverbs 11:4 4 Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

Proverbs 11:28 28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

Proverbs 16:8 8 Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice.

Proverbs 23:4-5 4 Do not toil to acquire wealth. Be discerning enough to desist. 5 When your eyes light on it, it is gone, for suddenly it sprouts wings, flying like an eagle toward heaven.

Proverbs 30:8 8 Remove far from me falsehood and lying. Give me neither poverty nor riches. Feed me with the food that is needful for me, 9 lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is Yahweh? or lest I be poor, steal, and profane the name of my God.

Ecclesiastes 5:10-17 10 He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income. This also is vanity. 11 When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? 12 Sweet is the sleep of a labourer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep. 13 There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, 14 and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. 15 As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. 16 This also is a grievous evil. Just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? 17 Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation, sickness, and anger.

Isaiah 56:11 11 The dogs have a mighty appetite. They never have enough. But they are shepherds who have no understanding. They have all turned to their own way, each to his own gain, one and all.

Jeremiah 6:13 13 For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain. And from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely.

Matthew 6:19-21 19 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 19:21-23 21 Jesus said to him, If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me. 22 When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. 23 And Jesus said to his disciples, Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mark 4:18-19 18 And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, 19 but the cares of the world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

Luke 6:24 24 Woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

Luke 11:39-41 39 And the Lord [Jesus] said to [the Pharisee], Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of *greed* and wickedness. 40 You fools! Did not he who made the outside make the inside also? 41 But give as alms those things that are within, and behold, everything is clean for you.

Luke 12:13-21 13 Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me. 14 But he said to him, Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you? 15 And he said to them, “Take care and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions. 16 And he told them a parable saying, The land of a rich man produced plentifully, 17 and he thought to himself, What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops? 18 And he said, I will do this. I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years. Relax, eat, drink, be merry. 20 But God said to him, Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be? 21 So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.

Luke 12:33-34 33 Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Luke 16:11-13 11 If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? 13 No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

Acts 20:33-34 33 I [Paul] coveted no one’s silver, gold, or apparel. 34 You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me.

Ephesians 5:3-6 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ...5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Messiah and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

Colossians 3:5 5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

1 Timothy 6:9-10 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

James 1:11 11 For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass. Its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the *rich* man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

James 2:1-7 1 My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Messiah, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, You sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, You stand over there, or, Sit down at my feet, 4 have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? 6 But you have dishonoured the poor man. Are not the *rich* the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

James 5:1-5 1 Come now, you *rich*, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. 2 Your *riches* have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. 4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. 5 You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.

Revelation 3:17-18 17 For you say, I am *rich*, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realising that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.