THE LIMITATIONS OF RICHES

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
THE LIMITATIONS OF RICHES
Bible Text: Proverbs 11:4

Prayer
Father, we are gathered before thee today to eat from the table of thy word, teach us, inspire us, and transform our lives in Jesus Christ's name!

Introduction
You are all welcome in Jesus Christ's name. Without wasting our time, let's delve into today's study.

Bible Text
Prov.11.14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Study
Money is undeniably one of the essential aspects of life. Some even claim that there is nothing money cannot achieve. As the Yoruba proverb goes, "bi owo ba se mo, logun a mo"—meaning, the effectiveness of a charm depends on the amount of money available. A person is labeled as poor primarily because they lack the resources to meet their needs. In **Ecclesiastes 10:19 (KJV),** the Bible states, "A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things," emphasizing the importance of money in everyday life.
Because of the challenges that come with not having money, some preachers have gone so far as to say that poverty is a sin, though this is not true. One person I know often says, "**There's no glory in poverty**," and if we examine that statement closely, we may find some truth in it. Can someone living in extreme

poverty really claim to be walking in their glory? What kind of glory brings constant financial struggles and embarrassment?
Some people argue that while money may not bring true joy, it can certainly bring happiness because of how essential it is. There's a saying that it's better to cry in a Jeep than to smile under the sun, reflecting how some prioritize wealth for comfort. Others claim that women are drawn to money, and may leave a poor man for a wealthier one, simply because no one wants to endure hardship.

Money has a significant influence on many aspects of life, often for the worse:
- Many marriages and homes have broken down because of money.
- Some ministers have compromised their calling, becoming puppets in the pulpit for financial gain.
- Some women have been exploited and objectified because of money.
- Young women have fallen victim to ritualistic practices for the sake of money.
- Many are in prison because of stolen money.
- People have stopped speaking the truth or defending it out of fear of financial repercussions.
- Countless individuals have become homeless due to financial problems.
- Many students have had to drop out of school because they couldn't afford tuition.
- People have died of hunger because they lacked the money to buy food.
- Sicknesses that could have been treated have claimed lives because of the inability to pay medical bills.
- People have lost their respect in the community because they don't have money.

When a family lacks money, the home often becomes a place of tension and constant quarrels. Even the church cannot function smoothly without financial resources—some argue that even evangelism benefits from tools like jets to spread the message effectively.This illustrates just how much money shapes our world, often dictating the direction of people's lives, decisions, and well-being.

Àre you following please

Only a few people can survive in this world without money, because nearly everything on Earth requires money in some way. This is why so many crimes are committed in the pursuit of wealth. Whether someone gets a job or learns a trade, it is ultimately because of money. Sadly, even some ministers of the gospel are in ministry for financial gain rather than a sincere calling. Money is a powerful tool of influence. It can attract friends and even turn enemies into allies. The Bible affirms this in **Proverbs 10:15 (KJV):** "The rich man's wealth is his strong city: the destruction of the poor is their poverty." Wealth brings security, while poverty can lead to ruin.

However, despite all the advantages money provides in this life, it has significant limitations:
- Money cannot accompany a person into eternity.
- It is utterly useless in the afterlife, no matter how much one accumulates.
- It cannot buy salvation.
- No amount of wealth can secure a glorious eternity or bribe one's way into heaven.
- It does not protect a person from God's wrath.
- While it can buy a house, it cannot create a true home.
- It may secure a spouse, but it cannot guarantee children.

- It may make someone well-known in church, but it will not make them a candidate for heaven.

As powerful as money seems, it becomes powerless at critical points in life. Solomon, despite his vast wealth, declared in Ecclesiastes 1:2 (KJV): "Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity." He recognized that all earthly achievements and possessions are ultimately meaningless. Many people today are so poor that all they have is money. This is tragic because while money can meet physical needs, it cannot address spiritual needs, and it will be irrelevant on the day of judgment.There's a sobering story of a man whose grave was uncovered long after his death, revealing a box of treasures buried with him. He likely valued those possessions so much during his lifetime that he could not part with them. Yet now, those treasures are worthless, as he has become nothing more than a skeleton. Everything we gather on Earth will eventually pass away, leaving us with nothing to show for it in eternity.

Are you getting this

It is a man's righteousness, not his wealth, that will save him. In the days of Sodom and Gomorrah, though there were likely many rich men, their wealth did nothing to save them from destruction. Money cannot add a single moment to a person's life. No matter how useful it appears, money is powerless when it comes to matters of eternity. The wrath of God will fall upon sinners, both rich and poor alike. The story of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31 KJV) serves as a clear warning: the riches of the rich man could not save him after death, and he found himself in torment. Money, despite its many advantages in this world, will never be worth the value of a soul. When a person dies without Christ, all the wealth they amassed on Earth becomes irrelevant. Money can buy many things in this life, but it cannot

buy a place in heaven. As Jesus reminds us in **Mark 8:36 (KJV):** "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

Those who focus on worldly riches without regard for the state of their soul will come to regret it for eternity. Satan works tirelessly to shift the focus of Christians from heavenly matters to the pursuit of material wealth. He tempts us to set our minds on things below rather than on things above, and because we often walk by sight instead of faith, we fall into his trap. But whether we like it or not, nothing physical in this world will last forever—nothing! No matter how valuable it may seem, it will eventually fade away. Take a moment to reflect: what are you doing today because of money that is jeopardizing your salvation? Is there a business or pursuit that has stolen your focus from God in exchange for temporary comfort? Money, when used wisely, can serve as a good tool, but it becomes a terrible master. As Scripture tells us, "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" **(1 Timothy 6:10 KJV).**

Consider your life, especially if you are a minister of the gospel. Has the pursuit of money altered your message or your commitment to God's work? What influence has it had on you? Many now find it easier to spend time making money than spending time with God. Remember the rich fool in **Luke 12:16-21 (KJV),** who gathered wealth and planned to enjoy it, but died before he could do so. He was called a fool because he had stored up treasures for himself but was not rich toward God. His wealth did him no good in the end, just as ours will not if we prioritize it over eternal matters.

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: [17] And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? [18] And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. [19] And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. [20] But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? [21] So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. **(Luke 12:16-21 KJV)**

Even if you enjoy the fruit of your labor on Earth, can it compare to the eternal joy you would receive in heaven? Don't pursue money at the cost of your soul. If you don't let go of it now, it will one day leave you behind. Holding tightly to earthly riches while neglecting to be rich toward God is a path that leads to spiritual bankruptcy. Instead, be wise by using your wealth for godly purposes. Help those in need, support the work of the kingdom, and invest in evangelism. By doing so, you lay up treasures in heaven, showing that your true focus is on eternity. Now is the time to direct your financial resources toward your eternal race rather than the fleeting pleasures of this world.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp +2347067511039 and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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