

Recap of 9/23/18 (1 Timothy 6:11-13)

1. One mark of the false teachers was that they connected holiness with riches—as if the goal of the Christian life and ministry was to become wealthy (a means of monetary gain), thus the warning of 1 Timothy 6:6-10. The question then arises if we are not to pursue money, then what are we to pursue? 1 Timothy 6:11-16 answers that question. Christians are not to be focused on this world and its goods but on the world to come, the world of the eternal, the second coming of Jesus Christ.
2. Matthew Henry puts it this way: “Men [and women] of God should be taken up with the things of God [not] setting their hearts upon the things of the world.”
3. Paul’s instructions to Timothy involve four commands. He is to flee (vs. 11), pursue (vs. 11), fight (vs. 12), and take hold of (vs. 12). All the commands are in the present tense, meaning that he should continually do these things.
4. He is to flee the materialism of the false teachers, the love of money.
5. He is to pursue a growing relationship with God; pursuing God’s agenda which is character, not material, eternal not temporal. The character he is to pursue, in place of money, is righteousness (integrity toward God and man); godliness (respect for God, “a passion for godly character” (Larry Richards); faithfulness, trusting in God, believing His Word; love, seeking the highest good of others; endurance (victoriously enduring the adversities of life, conquering them instead of being conquered by them; and lastly, gentleness (power under control, patient, humble, not a milquetoast).
6. He is to take hold of eternal life. That is he is to be focused on eternal things, eternal values not the values of this world. Our home is heaven, our security is in God. On the other hand the world’s security is in money, position, status.
7. “...make it clear by your life that you are a child of God.” (J. Vernon McGee)