

International Sunday School Finance Series  
The Deceitfulness of Wealth

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, and<sup>[c]</sup> we cannot take anything out of the world. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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...

<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> 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. – **1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19**

Thus says the LORD:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man  
and makes flesh his strength,<sup>[a]</sup>  
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> He is like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see any good come.  
He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> He is like a tree planted by water,  
that sends out its roots by the stream,  
and does not fear when heat comes,  
for its leaves remain green,

and is not anxious in the year of drought,  
for it does not cease to bear fruit." – **Jeremiah 17:5-8**

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

<sup>13</sup> Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— <sup>14</sup> yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. – **James 4:13-17**

According to the census bureau: Out of 100 people who start working at age 25, by 65:

1 person will be wealthy

4 people will have enough for retirement

3 people will still be working

63 will be dependent on Social Security, friends, relatives, or charity

29 will be dead