

## Money, Money, Money – Part 2

I Timothy 6:6-10

**Ecclesiastes 3:12-13** – What is our attitude about work and the benefits that honest, diligent work provides?

### I. **Hard Workers** – The Best Wealth is Gotten By Work = 4 Godly Principles...

#### A. **Work... is good**

1. **Gen. 1:28** = God created Man and a beautiful world. Then He gave man the job of taking care of His creation; “*Here it is, now GO TO WORK!*” **Eph. 4:28**, “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”

#### B. **Work... is necessary** – **I Tim. 5:8** “But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.”

#### C. **Work... honors God**

1. Displays God-given skills; Utilizes God-given time
2. Channels God-given energy; Produces God-given wealth

#### D. **Work... helps to prevent self-centered evil** – “*An idle mind is the devil’s workshop*”

1. Carelessness is unsatisfactory – **I Thess. 4:11** “...and to do your own business, (*take pride in your work!*) and to work with your own hands, (*give a diligent, honest days work for the pay*) as we commanded you.” Lazy employees get into trouble and breed trouble!

### II. **Lazy People** – **Proverbs** gives us... Characteristics of a lazy person... (6 slippery steps...)

#### A. **He Likes To Sleep** – **Ch. 6:6-11**, “Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.”

#### B. **He Expects Everybody Else To Serve Him** – **Ch. 12:27**, “The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.”

#### C. **He Lives In A Dream World** – **Ch. 13: 4**, “The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.” **Ch. 21:25-26**, “The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour. He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.”

#### D. **He Always Has An Excuse Not To Work**

1. I don’t like the weather... **Ch. 20:4**, “The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.”
2. I’m afraid I’ll get hurt... **Ch. 22:13**, “The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.”

#### E. **He Is Poor In Performance** – **Ch. 10: 26**, “As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the sluggard to them that send him.”

1. Vinegar is acidic and breaks down the strength of the teeth...
2. Smoke clouds the eyes, giving pain and irritation...

#### F. **He Is Non-Productive** – **Ch. 18: 9**, “He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.” A lazy person neglects his work and his materials (*responsibilities*) go to ruin and are wasted.