

AMERICA'S KILLING SIN

1 Timothy 6:6-12

GREED

Dictionary Definition - An inordinate desire for something, the desire for more.....particularly wealth. *In the bible greed is the desire for material wealth or gain, ignoring the realm of the spiritual. It is also called Avarice or Covetousness.*

For the Love of Money People Will:

1. Murder
2. Steal
3. Lie
4. Cheat
5. Embezzle
6. Covet
7. Break the laws of man and the laws of God

The Killing Sin

1. We live in possibly the most pampered, consumerist society since the Roman Empire
2. The great sin of America is greed. The most serious spiritual problem in the country today is reckless and uncontrolled greed.
3. Greed causes the disgraceful corporate scandals that fill our newspapers.
4. Greed is responsible for crooked cops and crooked politicians.
5. Greed drives the murders and exploitations of drug abuse in the narcotics world.
6. Greed is what led financial institutions to take advantage of borrowers whom they gave loans to individuals knowing many could not afford nor repay... This abuse of credit is why we see our financial institutions in decline and on the brink of ruin.
7. Greed is what tempted consumers to continue to amass goods that they could not afford.

The Credit Craze

1. Perhaps the most significant economic change of the 20th century was the discovery of instant prosperity (called credit) by millions of American families. 50 years ago credit was a shameful thing, but now look how far we have come.
2. Today we are facing one of the greatest economic crises that recent generations have ever faced. Americans are used to having what we want when we want it by using whatever means necessary to get it. Fox News reported recently how many people in the U.S., who were considered to be under the poverty level, and 90% had a color TV, 40% owned a computer, and 60% owned an automobile.

Fiat Currency

1. "Toilet paper money", led to the ruin of every civilization that used it, including the Roman Empire.
2. The term fiat currency or fiat money relates to types of currency or money whose usefulness results not from any intrinsic value or guarantee that it can be converted into gold or another currency, but instead from a government's order (fiat) that it must be accepted as a means of payment.
3. In America under President Franklin Roosevelt, it was made illegal to own gold. On March 11, 1933, he issued an order forbidding banks to make gold payments. On April 5, Roosevelt ordered all citizens to surrender their gold -- no person could hold more than \$100 in gold coins, except for collector's coins. In 1971 the U.S. dollar broke all ties with gold led by President Richard Nixon.

Unlimited Credit

1. In a fiat money system, money is not backed by a physical commodity (i.e.: gold). Instead, the only thing that gives the money value is its relative scarcity and the faith placed in it by the people that use it.
2. In a fiat monetary system, there is no restraint on the amount of money that can be created. This allows unlimited credit creation. Initially, a rapid growth in the availability of credit is often mistaken for economic growth, as spending and business profits grow and frequently there is a rapid growth in equity prices. In the long run, however, the economy tends to suffer much more by the following contraction than it gained from the expansion in credit.

National Debt

1. Our government is not concerned with accruing a trillion dollar debt to boost our economy, a debt that can never be repaid, because they simply slowly increase the amount of currency being printed every year!

Decline of Industry

1. There is much greed in corporate management – STUDY OF WAL-MART was recently done and the results prove that if they gave every employee a \$5.00 / hr pay raise they could still have made 6 billion dollars in profit this quarter instead of 9 billion. Their response was if they raised wages they would have to raise prices – GREED!
2. Greed is responsible for the obscene salaries of CEOs. In the '90s the ratio of CEO compensation to average workers' compensation was 250 to 1, meaning that the boss earned on his first day of work during a year as much as the worker did in a whole year.
3. In European countries the ratio is closer to 100 to 1. Recent estimates put the current ratio at 500 to 1 -- the boss makes as much before lunch as the worker does all year.
4. I Support American industry, the American dream, protecting the right to work, prosperity, keeping good jobs in America and the quality of life many are striving to achieve but it is the excessive greed that continues to be the downfall of America. The cost of living continues to rise while wages continue to decline.

Greed is the Underlying Cause of our Economic Troubles

1. The answer is protecting our workforce by not supporting slave labor and unfair regulations from imported goods in other countries (i.e. Free trade agreements, hold other countries accountable to the same laws and standards we uphold)
2. Restoring the integrity and value of our currency
3. Correcting an abusive credit system
4. Regulate the abuses and manipulation of the money markets
5. Cut our losses and go back to the way that works – sin will never prevail in someone’s life or in a country
6. Restore God’s financial plan for the home
7. The Bible gives a Stern Warning Against the Sin of Greed

- A young man comes to Jesus to settle a quarrel they had over the family inheritance...

Luke 12:13 And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.

14 And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

- Greed led Judas to betray our Savior for 30 pieces of silver

God has 3 Purposes for Money in the Life of the Believer:

1. To meet our needs
2. To give to others in need
3. To give to the Lord's work

CURE FOR GREED

Psa 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

Matt 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.