

A Study About Elders

(Part 12)

I. Introduction:

A. As saints, we should realize that all the gains in the world are not worth the losing of one's soul for (**Matthew 16:24-27**).

1. What do material gains mean for us (**Proverbs 13:7**)?
2. Are you willing to surrender materialism (**Hebrews 11:24-26**)?

B. All whom have been properly converted to Christ have committed to a mindset of forsaking all to follow Christ (**Luke 14:25-33**).

1. One CANNOT serve God and material wealth (**Luke 16:13**).
2. Not only can one not be an elder if they love things of the world, you cannot even be a Christian in that state (**I John 2:15-17**).

II. Body: Not Greedy Of / Not Given To Filthy Lucre (**I Timothy 3:3** and **Titus 1:7**).

A. This means: "sordid: — given to (greedy of) filthy lucre. Eager for base gain, greedy for money" (Strong's # 146).

1. Used in the two passages we are discussing, and then one other time in the New Testament (**I Timothy 3:8**).
2. A principle that drives false teachers (**Jeremiah 6:13**, **II Peter 2:1-3**, and **II Peter 2:14-15**).

B. Being greedy of filthy lucre influences people who have authority (**I Samuel 8:1-5**).

1. Causes judgment to be twisted (**Isaiah 1:21-23**).
2. They focus on their carnal prosperity and people blindly follow them (**Jeremiah 5:26-31**).
3. For gain, they strengthen the hands of evil doers (**Ezekiel 13:17-23**).
4. They do all of this, and still maintain innocence (**Micah 3:9-12**).
5. Their motive in what they teach is personal gain. Thus, they have to be stopped rather than put in an office of leadership (**Titus 1:10-14**).

C. The love of money is the root of all evil (**I Timothy 6:3-12**).

1. Covetousness is idolatry (**Ephesians 5:5**).
2. Being content is the answer (**Psalms 37:16**, **Luke 12:13-34**, and **Philippians 4:11-13**).

III. Conclusion: **I Peter 5:1-3**