

## **You Cannot Serve God and Riches**

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Mathew 6 : 24(NKJV)

24 'No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. Mathew 6 : 24 (NRSV)

I am surprised time and again, at how easily the whole Christendom can easily not see the obvious. Jesus here speaks very clearly. He simply gives an option - it is either God or money.

But today the latest trend is that if God loves you, you will be blessed materially. May be the Old Testament saints were rich, but Jesus singularly discouraged His followers to put their heart on worldly prosperity. I have searched the Bible for some support for the Prosperity Gospel of today. But I zero in on the verse above. Jesus says it Me or money.

As soon as the Holy Spirit was poured out, the wealthy Christians, sold their wealth and lived like everybody else in a commonwealth community.

But now the yardstick for a spirit filled believer is how much s/he has been blessed.

I personally find it very vulgar to go on a stage and proclaim, " I earn a six digit salary. I say this for the glory of God." How is God glorified when you earn a six digit salary?

God is not glorified through my bank balance, but He is glorified through my life. He is glorified when I build up the Kingdom with the six digit salary.

How will He be glorified, when I build house after house, car after car, two wheeler after two wheeler? The blessing has stagnated. Later on it will start stinking.

Some days back we meditated on Jesus asking us to store up treasures in heaven.

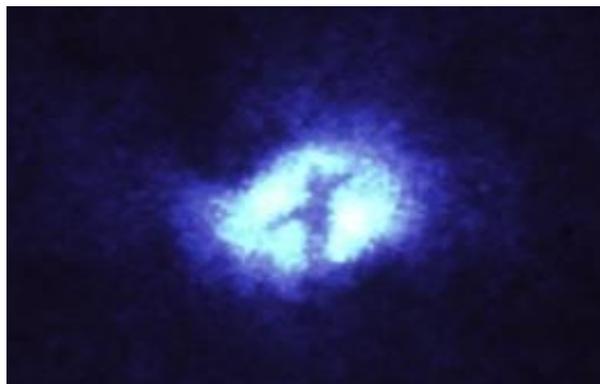
When any person or Church teaches you to become rich and preaches that a child of God has to be materially blessed, it is time to move out.

Because this teaching is totally opposed to the Word of Jesus. When our heart is bent on becoming rich, money will become our Master and not God.

Where God says, "Give the money here," the wealth inside of you will say, " You need it to buy a car, spend it on you, you are worth it."

Oh the puffed up pride of the phrase, "You are worth it!"

Whenever I hear this often floating phrase I tell myself, " Yes I am only worth dying on the Cross, yet Jesus took my place. What have I to boast about? Everything is grace. Everything is received."



Read and meditate this wonderful verse of Paul, "What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?" I Corinthians 4 : 7

We cannot always keep running along with the sermon of the season. As people who could read the Word of God, we should be able to measure every preaching with the Word of God.

When the Word and the message of the world contradicts, follow the Word. There will be no compromise, no middle ground.

The choice is crystal clear. It is either God or money.

How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD *is* God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him. *ose* this day whom you will serve. I Kings 18,20

**Lord You really are more precious....**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taBu2bxO820&feature=fvwrel>