

# The Murderous Magnet of Materialism

## Introduction:

- A. Does the Bible say money is evil? (*1 Tim 6:10; 4:4-5*).
- B. Is it right for Christians to have material possessions and enjoy them? (*Deut 16:15*)
- C. Then what's the issue? (*Luke 16:13*).
- D. Materialism — \_\_\_\_\_-centered and \_\_\_\_\_-centered rather than \_\_\_\_\_-centered.

## I. Fatal Dangers of Materialism

- A. Materialism hinders or destroys our spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ (*Rev 3:17*).
- B. Materialism is a broken \_\_\_\_\_ that can't hold water (*Jer 2:11-13*).
- C. Materialism \_\_\_\_\_ us to the curses of wealth (*Num 11:18-20; Ezek 28:4-5*).
- D. Materialism quite naturally breeds \_\_\_\_\_ (*Matt 6:31-34; Eccl 5:12*).
- E. Materialism ends in \_\_\_\_\_ (*Eccl 2:1,8-11; 5:10-11; 2 Cor 6:10*).
- F. Materialism \_\_\_\_\_ many of life's greatest blessings (*Rev 22:17; Prov 11:4*).
- G. Materialism spawns \_\_\_\_\_ and self-sufficiency (*Deut 31:20; Hos 8:14; 13:4-6*).
- H. Materialism leads to \_\_\_\_\_ and elitism (*Psa 52:7; Job 12:5; James 2:1-9*).
- I. Materialism promotes \_\_\_\_\_ and exploitation (*Amos 5:11; Micah 6:12*).
- J. Materialism fosters \_\_\_\_\_ and the deterioration of the family (*2 Sam 11:2-4*).

## II. Materialism's Murderous Magnet

- A. Materialism's sad stories fill the pages of Scripture (Achan, Gehazi, Solomon, Judas, Ananias).
- B. We shouldn't be surprised, then, to find inspired sober warnings throughout God's word:
  - 1. *Luke 12:15* — "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness."
  - 2. *Colossians 3:5* — "Put to death therefore what is earthly in you...covetousness."
  - 3. *Matthew 13:22* — "The cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word."
  - 4. *1 Timothy 6:9-10* — "It is through this craving that some have pierced themselves."