> Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.
> *— 1 Corinthians 6:9-10*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: greed, gossip, idols, Kingdom, Salvation, sin

Interpretation:
1 Corinthians 6:9-10 verses from a letter written by *the Apostle Paul* to the church in Corinth. In this letter, Paul covers a variety of topics and instructs the believers on how to live according to the principles of the gospel. In the verses in question, Paul warns the Corinthians of the consequences of a life filled with sin.

Sins mentioned

In this passage, Paul mentions ten specific sins that can prevent a person from inheriting *the Kingdom of God*.

1. *Fornicators*, which are those who engage in sexual relations outside of marriage.
2. *Idolaters*, which are those who worship gods other than the God of the Bible.
3. *Adulterers*, which are those who cheat on their partners.
4. *Effeminate*, which are those men who adopt behavior or attitudes considered feminine.
5. *Homosexuals*, which are those who engage in sexual relations with members of the same sex.
6. *Thieves*, those who take possession of what does not belong to them.
7. *Covetous people (misers)*, who love money excessively and will do anything to get it.
8. *Drunken people*, who abuse alcohol and lose control of their actions.
9. *Gossips*, those who speak ill of others without any basis.
10. *Predators (cheaters)*, those who deceive others for personal gain.

It is important to clarify, however, that this passage is not limited to the people mentioned in the list. We are all sinners, and there are areas in our lives where we can make mistakes. The purpose of this passage is not to condemn or single out certain groups of people, but rather to show the importance of

living a righteous life and keeping God’s commandments. We must remember that the purpose of this passage is not to fan the flames of hatred or discrimination against certain groups of people.

Divine judgment

These verses remind us that as humans, we are responsible for our actions and must be accountable to God. Divine judgment is a reality, and as Christians, we must always be prepared for it. It is important to understand that our earthly life is temporary and that what we do in it has eternal consequences.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
> *— 1 Timothy 6:10*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: greed, desires, evil, faith, idols, money

Interpretation:
The Bible verse in *1 Timothy 6:10* is an important reminder that the love of money can be the root of all evil. The desire to accumulate wealth and power can lead to greed and unethical decisions in life, which can lead to a loss of values ??and faith.

The Bible teaches us that money itself is not evil, but the love of it can become a hindrance to our relationship with God and the realization of our true happiness. It is easy to become caught up in prosperity and the accumulation of wealth in this world, but in the long run, this can bring more pain than satisfaction.

A fall from faith

When we focus on money and the accumulation of wealth, we lose sight of the purpose of our lives. We can stray from the inner values ??that are necessary to live a meaningful and successful life in our relationships with God and others. The Bible teaches us to find balance in our lives and not let the pursuit of wealth distract us from our faith.

Pain and consequences

The love of money can bring many negative consequences in our lives. Some people may fall into debt, greed and avarice, while others may succumb to the temptation of corruption and unethical behavior. These actions can have serious consequences, including legal problems, mental and emotional health issues, and loss of morality.

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> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.
> *— 1 Timothy 6:9*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: greed, materialism, money

Interpretation:
The Bible constantly warns us about the dangers of being obsessed with wealth. In *1 Timothy 6:9, the Apostle Paul* warns us of the negative consequences that can come from allowing greed to control us.

The dangers of desiring to be rich

In this verse, the Apostle Paul tells us that those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare. Temptation is a trap that we can fall into without even realizing it, and a snare is a deception that causes us to do something we should not. In this case, the temptation is the desire for more money, and the snare is the belief that money will bring us happiness.

Furthermore, Paul tells us that the foolish and harmful desires that can arise from this temptation can plunge people into destruction and ruin. “Foolish” are those desires that are meaningless, foolish, and will not bring us any benefit, while “harmful” shows that these desires can negatively affect us and harm our relationships and our lives.

Money does not bring us happiness

Wealth is a blessing if used correctly. However, we should not fall into the trap of believing that money will bring us happiness. The truth is that money cannot give us the complete satisfaction we seek, just

like material possessions. Moreover, we must remember that while wealth can provide us with comfort and make life easier, it can also become an obstacle to our relationship with God. Often, the rich are proud of their wealth, which prevents them from humbly approaching God.

The importance of living with financial wisdom

While we must be aware of the dangers of wealth, this does not mean that we should avoid hard work and financial responsibility. The Bible teaches us that we are to use our resources wisely and be good stewards of all that God has given us. This financial wisdom can be developed through planning, saving, and investing. However, we must avoid greed and the temptation to accumulate wealth dishonestly and without any eternal purpose.

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> Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.
> — *Colossians 3:5*

Book: New Testament / Colossians
Topics: greed, conversion, desires, idols, materialism, sin

Interpretation:
The Bible verse from *Colossians 3:5*, which speaks about the importance of putting to death all earthly things in us, calls us to consider the need to leave behind those practices that are incompatible with living according to Christian principles.

What is earthly?

By earthly we could mean that which causes us to do things that are not beneficial to us or to the environment. That is, that which distances us from God and causes us to fall into temptations that lead us astray. This verse mentions some of the practices we may fall into, such as fornication, impurity, disordered passions, evil desires, and greed. It is important to remember that each of us is acutely aware of the practices that prevent us from living in harmony with the will of God.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.
> — *Ecclesiastes 5:10*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: greed, materialism, money

Interpretation:
One of the most common problems in modern society is an excessive love of money. Modernity and the capitalist world have taught us that the most important thing in life is having a lot of money, but the Bible teaches us something completely different: that the love of money is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 clearly states that those who love money will never be satisfied with it, no matter how much they have, and those who love wealth will never bear true fruit. This teaches us that the love of money or wealth is empty; it cannot satisfy and distances us from what is truly important.

How can we apply this verse to our lives?

Applying this verse to our lives is simple, but not easy. We must learn to value what is truly important, what is truly valuable. Love for God and family, love for our neighbors, honesty and integrity—these are what will bring us true happiness and satisfaction in life. We must learn to put money in its place, viewing it as a means to satisfying our needs, not as an end in itself. We must be grateful for what we have and not desire more and more, as this only leads us to dissatisfaction.

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> Everyone comes naked from their mother’s womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart. They take nothing from their toil that they can carry in their hands.
> — *Ecclesiastes 5:15*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: greed, heaven, materialism

Interpretation:
The book of Ecclesiastes is known for its philosophical reflections on life. Verse 15 of chapter 5, which speaks of our mortality, does not shy away from this topic.

Our fleeting existence on earth

In this verse, the author reminds us that our presence in this world is fleeting and ephemeral. We all came into this world naked and defenseless, and we will leave it the same. Therefore, we must make the most of our time on earth, without hiding from ourselves the reality of our mortality. Furthermore, the author reminds us that none of our possessions or achievements will follow us into the next world. Whatever wealth and property we acquire in life, it will all remain here on earth. Therefore, we must ask ourselves: What is the meaning of our lives? What will we leave behind in this world when we pass away?

A call to reflect on what's truly important

Throughout our lives, we tend to worry about trivial and fleeting things, losing sight of what's truly important. This verse reminds us of the importance of reflecting on our lives and our actions. Are we doing the right thing? Are we giving our best? It calls us to reflect on what's truly important and to value those around us. Instead of worrying about our possessions or accumulated power, we should focus on our own happiness and the happiness of those around us.

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> But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.
> — *Ephesians 5:3*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: greed, Holiness, sexuality, sin

Interpretation:

The Bible is an important source of guidance and wisdom for those who seek to live godly and righteous lives. Among the most discussed topics in the Bible are often mentioned fornication and impurity, which are of great importance to those who seek holiness.

In this context, *Ephesians 5:3* takes on great relevance for believers, as it mentions the need to avoid fornication, impurity, and greed. This verse emphasizes the need for purity in our lives and how essential this purity is to holiness.

As Christians, we must recognize that fornication and impurity are serious sins that separate us from the will of God. Therefore, we must constantly fight against these temptations, avoiding any actions that lead us to them. In this sense, *Ephesians 5:3* reminds us of our responsibility to live up to the standards of holiness that God expects of His followers.

The meaning of “this befits saints”

Ephesians 5:3 calls believers to avoid all forms of immorality and covetousness, and that they are not even mentioned among them. The passage goes on to say that such behavior is not befitting of saints. This brings us to the question: Who are saints? How can we attain holiness?

Holiness is a state of being in which a person lives in full fellowship with God. A saint is one who has been sanctified and set apart for God. In this sense, holiness is something we should strive for and strive for as believers. Holiness is not achieved after salvation, but we must work for it day by day. Holiness is not something we do to earn salvation, but rather a natural response to God’s love for us.

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> You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.
>
> *— Exodus 20:17*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: greed, law, materialism, neighbor

Interpretation:

The commandment in *Exodus 20:17* is the last of the Ten Commandments given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. This commandment not only prohibits coveting another's possessions but also teaches us an important lesson about gratitude and life satisfaction.

Envy: what does It mean?

Before delving into the meaning of this commandment, it's important to understand the meaning of the word "envy." The term "envy" denotes a strong desire to possess something belonging to another person. This applies not only to material goods but also to relationships and social status.

The danger of greed

Greed can be dangerous because it can lead us to make reckless decisions and harm others to satisfy our desires. Desire for something else can lead to envy and jealousy, which can lead to malicious behavior and harmful actions. Furthermore, greed never satisfies us. No matter how many things a person has, there will always be something they desire more of. Greed is like an incurable disease, and it can consume our lives and relationships.

Gratitude and contentment

The commandment "thou shalt not covet" teaches us the importance of gratitude and contentment. Instead of focusing on what we don't have, we should focus on what we do have. We must learn to appreciate and be grateful for the blessings God has given us and work to improve our lives, rather than envying others.

Gratitude and contentment also help us maintain proper perspective. Often, when we focus on what we don't have, we lose sight of our advantages and feel dissatisfied and unhappy. But when we are grateful for what we do have, we can clearly see our accomplishments and view the world more positively.

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> Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”
> *— Luke 12:15*

Book: New Testament / Luke

Topics: greed, contentment, materialism, money

Interpretation:
In Luke 12:15, Jesus warns his disciples about greed, the tendency to focus on the accumulation of wealth and material possessions. Jesus tells them to beware of all greed, emphasizing that a person's life is not made up of the abundance of goods they possess. In other words, Jesus is teaching them that true happiness and meaning in life are not found in the accumulation of material goods, but in something deeper.

Jesus encourages us to look for deeper things, rather than focusing solely on material things. He invites us to look for happiness and fulfillment in other places, such as meaningful relationships, spirituality, and helping others. Having material goods is not necessarily a bad thing, but it is important not to focus our entire attention and life on them and not let them define us.

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> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?
> — *Mark 8:36*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: greed, life, materialism, world

Interpretation:
At first glance, *Mark 8:36* may make us think about the triviality of earthly things and the need to place greater emphasis on spiritual things. But what does this verse really mean to us and how can we apply it to our lives?

Gain the world, lose the soul

The question *Jesus* asks in this verse is crystal clear. In other words, what value do material possessions and possessions have if we fail to take care of the most important thing we have: *our soul?*

It is easy to fall into the trap of overvaluing what we have in the material world, thinking that it will bring us the happiness and fulfillment we desire. But if we neglect our soul and do not place the proper value on our spiritual life, we will not find the true peace and happiness we seek.

The value of our soul

Jesus' words in this verse show us the true value of our soul. It is the most important thing we have, and we should treasure it with all our being. It is the soul that allows us to connect with the divine, with God, and find our purpose in life.

Having a soul distinguishes us from other living beings and makes us special, capable of making decisions and living a full and meaningful life. Therefore, we must pay attention to what is happening in our soul, take care of it and ensure that it is in peace and harmony with our life and the world around us.

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> Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.
>
> *— Matthew 6:19-20*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: greed, heaven, materialism

Interpretation:
Matthew 6:19-20 tells us not to store up wealth on earth because it is temporary. When we look at these verses more closely, it becomes clear that *Jesus* is not against material possessions, but rather is calling us not to focus all of our energy and attention on them. We must consider that these earthly things are fleeting and will not last forever, meaning that if we make them the center of our lives, we will experience disappointment and loss.

Wealth of the earth

Accumulating wealth from the earth is a practice that many consider necessary to live comfortably in the modern world. However, compulsively acquiring material goods can lead to a life of stress and anxiety, as it requires constant work to maintain such a lifestyle. Moreover, these assets can disappear in the blink of an eye, whether due to a natural disaster or theft.

Treasures in heaven

Unlike earthly riches, these verses call us to store up treasures in heaven. What are these treasures and how can we obtain them? Instead of focusing on material things, we should focus on loving God and others, practicing humility and generosity, and living according to biblical principles. In this way, we will be investing in our eternal future rather than accumulating possessions that will perish.

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> No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.
> — *Matthew 6:24*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: greed, debt, materialism, money, serving

Interpretation:
In today's society, we are constantly being driven by the need to achieve wealth and success in life. The intense competition for money and material possessions often causes us to forget the fundamental truth that this Bible verse from *Matthew 6:24* offers.

The meaning of the verse

The teaching of this verse is clear: we can only serve one master, material or spiritual. Serving wealth distances us from God, and this leads us to make decisions that harm our values ??and distance us from true happiness.

The Bible teaches us that God is the source of all goodness and that serving Him is the path to happiness, peace, and harmony in our lives. While money and material possessions may bring us temporary happiness and pleasure, they cannot satisfy our spiritual or emotional needs.

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> Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.
> — *Proverbs 13:11*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: greed, debt, money, work

Interpretation:
The verse teaches us the importance of acting honestly when it comes to wealth. Those who seek dishonest gain may gain temporary wealth, but it will not last.

It is vital to seek honest means of acquiring wealth and to manage our resources wisely. By acting honestly and gradually, we will see our assets grow and prosper.

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> All day long he craves for more, but the righteous give without sparing.
> — *Proverbs 21:26*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: greed, desires, giving, materialism

Interpretation:
The book of Proverbs is one of the most well-known and beloved books in the Bible. Within it, we can find many valuable teachings that help us understand the wisdom and justice that underlie biblical principles. *Proverbs 21:26* is no exception, offering us reflections on greed and justice.

A greedy man is greedy all day long

The verse begins by talking about a greedy man who is eager to accumulate material wealth and is willing to do anything to achieve this goal. The text says that this man covets something all day long, which suggests that he has no rest in his quest to achieve more wealth. This obsession with accumulating material goods can become a real form of slavery.

The concept of greed is not new in the Bible. In *the New Testament*, we find *Jesus* teaching us the futility of accumulating material wealth and how these things distract us from what is truly important. In *Matthew 6:24, Jesus* says, *“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”*

The righteous give without holding back his hand

On the other hand, the verse tells us about the righteous. This person is not selfish or greedy. Instead, their attitude toward money and possessions is different. The verse says that the righteous give without holding back his hand, which suggests that this person is willing to help others and share what he has.

This unselfish attitude toward money and possessions is also what Jesus recommended for us in the New Testament. In *Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus* tells us that we should focus on spiritual riches, not material ones. He says: *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

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> Do not wear yourself out to get rich; do not trust your own cleverness.
> *— Proverbs 23:4*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: greed, money, planning

Interpretation:
Proverbs 23:4 exhorts us to avoid the pursuit of wealth, to be prudent, and to forsake it. This verse can be seen as a warning against greed, which distracts us from what's truly important in life.

What does it mean to be rich?

Before delving into the meaning *of Proverbs 23:4*, it's important to understand what is meant by the word "rich." While some define wealth as having large quantities of material goods and money, others

understand wealth as happiness, love, and emotional well-being. Therefore, this verse can refer to both material and spiritual wealth.

Why exercise caution and forsake wealth?

This verse's call to prudent behavior and forsake wealth does not mean we should be content with what we have and not strive to improve our lives. Rather, it is a call to remember that greed and the pursuit of wealth can lead to irresponsible and destructive behavior.

An obsession with wealth can lead us to ignore important values ??such as honesty, loyalty, and compassion. Furthermore, the pursuit of wealth can lead people to work long hours and focus excessively on work, to the detriment of family and social life.

Prudence means acting cautiously, guided by common sense and wisdom, and taking conscious steps to achieve long-term goals. It's important to remember that true wealth is measured not by the amount of money, but by the quality of life and relationships.

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> Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain.
> — *Psalm 119:36*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: greed, heart, law, selfishness

Interpretation:
Greed is an attitude or behavior that leads us to cling to material goods without regard for the needs of others, often seeking our own gain at their expense.

In *Psalm 119:36*, the psalmist asks God to incline his heart to God's revelations and turn him away from greed. This is a prayer for God's help in overcoming a common human tendency: allowing greed to control us.

Why is it important to fight greed?

Greed can not only lead us to harm others for our own gain but also distance us from God and our relationships with others. Putting the love of money and possessions above love for God and others

can lead to undesirable relationships and behaviors.

How do we apply this verse to our lives?

Greed can confuse each of us, and it's important to know how to fight it. This verse gives us an important tool: *asking God for help to incline our hearts to His testimonies*.

This means regularly reading and studying *God's Word*, praying for wisdom, and asking God for help in following His commandments. By focusing on God, we can gain the strength to resist the temptation of greed.

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> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing.
> — *Romans 13:6*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: greed, honesty, money

Interpretation:
The book of Romans was written by *the Apostle Paul* to the Christians in Rome who were living under the rule of the Roman Empire. In this context, paying taxes to the Roman authorities was mandatory, but many Christians refused to do so because of their belief in *the Kingdom of Heaven* and their rejection of any form of earthly authority.

In *Romans 13:6*, Paul reminds Christians that they must pay taxes because the authorities are in the service of God and are dedicated to that service. Also, in the previous verse *(Romans 13:5)*, Paul speaks of the importance of submitting to the authorities rather than resisting them, since resisting the authorities is resisting what God has established.

Taxes and civic obligations

Paying taxes was not only an obligation under Roman rule, but is a civic obligation in most countries of the world. As Christians, we must recognize that we are citizens of the world and therefore must fulfill our civic obligations, including paying taxes.

Moreover, paying taxes is a way to contribute to the well-being of our society. Taxes are used to fund government programs and services that benefit all citizens, such as health care, education, security, and infrastructure. As Christians, we must recognize our responsibility to contribute to the well-being of our society.

Serving God through our civic responsibilities

In this verse, Paul also reminds us that governments are in the service of God. In other words, our civic responsibilities can also be a way to serve God. When we fulfill our civic responsibilities conscientiously and responsibly, we contribute to the well-being of our society and reflect Christian values ??in our daily lives.

Moreover, paying taxes can also be a way to demonstrate our trust in God. When we pay taxes, we trust that God will provide us with sufficient funds to meet our financial needs and that we are doing what is right in *His Kingdom*.

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