

## A Biblical Philosophy of Personal Finance

- The Bible contains 2,350 verses on how to handle money and possessions.
- 15% of everything Jesus said had to do with it. He talked more about money than almost any other subject.
- Almost 2/3 of all of Jesus' parables relate to money.

Two very important reasons why God said so much about money:

1) How we handle money impacts our relationship with God (Lu. 16:11). "True Riches" refers to knowing God very well. And I think that we will discover that every time we apply one of God's financial principles, we grow closer to Him.

2) He wants to teach us how to handle it wisely (I Cor. 4:2).

Rom. 12:2. It's time to transform our minds when it comes to personal finances.

### I Timothy 6

I. Follow After \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 6-8) (Heb. 3:5; Mt. 6:26, 30)

- Contentment is living life satisfied -- with what God has provided, is continuing to provide and will continue to provide.
- Contentment is not based on income or possessions.
- Contentment is being satisfied with what you do have, not coveting what you don't have.
- A "winning combination" -- "godliness (putting God first in your life) with contentment (living a satisfied life) is great gain" (v. 6).
- Here are a few things that we know from the Bible about contentment:
  - Contentment is an evidence of a changed life (Lu. 3:14) (Gal. 5:23)
  - Contentment is a lifestyle that can be learned (Phil. 4:11-13)

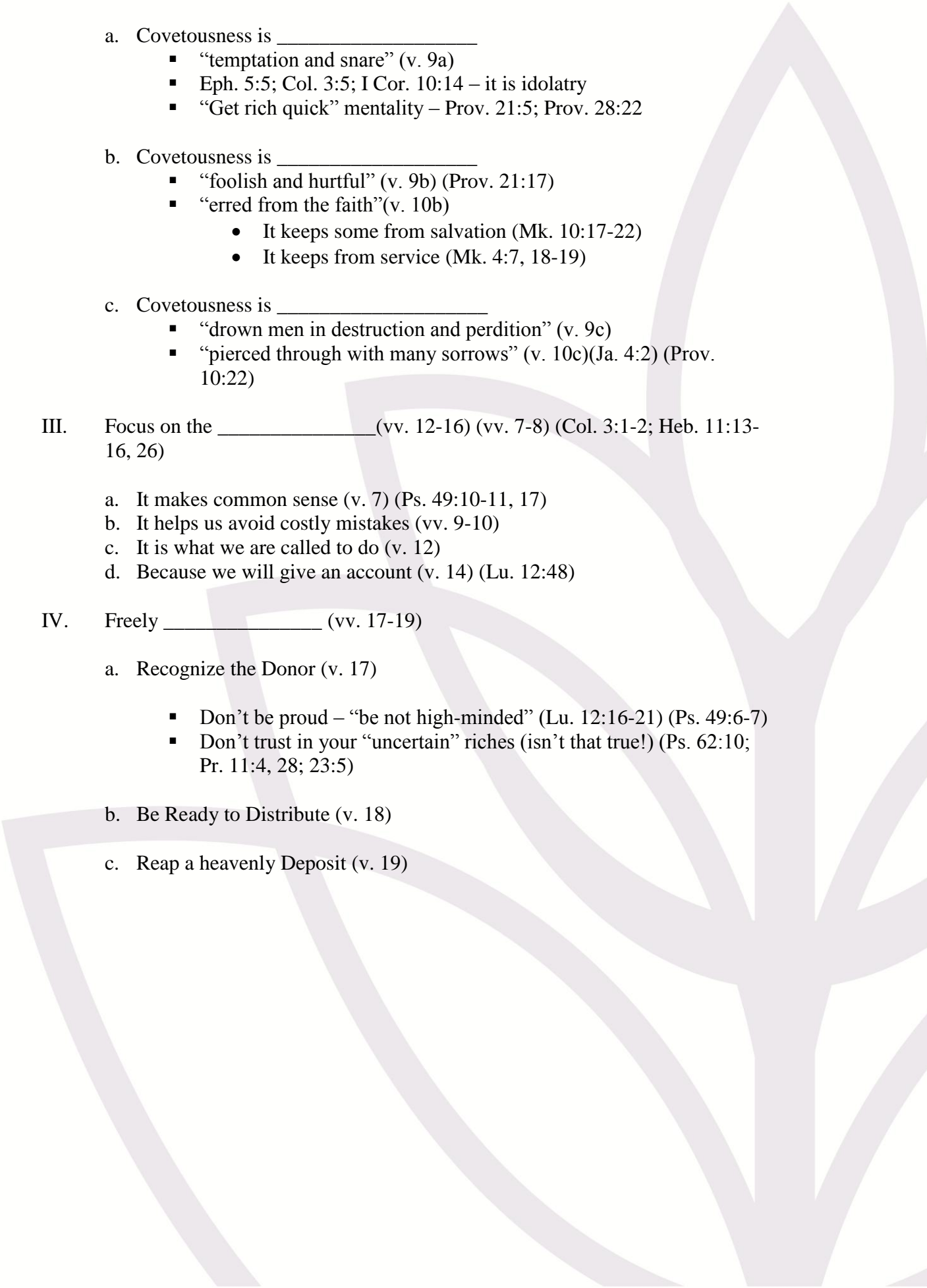
II. Flee From \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 9-11) (Ex. 20:17; Lu. 12:15)

- "Covetousness" is an intense, selfish desire for things.
- It is forbidden in the 10<sup>th</sup> commandment (Ex. 20:17).
- "Materialism" is another good synonym for covetousness (Lu. 12:15).

There are two important phrases that describe a covetous person in this passage:

v. 9 -- "They that *will be* rich"

v. 10a -- "The love of money"

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- a. Covetousness is \_\_\_\_\_
- “temptation and snare” (v. 9a)
  - Eph. 5:5; Col. 3:5; I Cor. 10:14 – it is idolatry
  - “Get rich quick” mentality – Prov. 21:5; Prov. 28:22
- b. Covetousness is \_\_\_\_\_
- “foolish and hurtful” (v. 9b) (Prov. 21:17)
  - “erred from the faith”(v. 10b)
    - It keeps some from salvation (Mk. 10:17-22)
    - It keeps from service (Mk. 4:7, 18-19)
- c. Covetousness is \_\_\_\_\_
- “drown men in destruction and perdition” (v. 9c)
  - “pierced through with many sorrows” (v. 10c)(Ja. 4:2) (Prov. 10:22)

III. Focus on the \_\_\_\_\_(vv. 12-16) (vv. 7-8) (Col. 3:1-2; Heb. 11:13-16, 26)

- a. It makes common sense (v. 7) (Ps. 49:10-11, 17)
- b. It helps us avoid costly mistakes (vv. 9-10)
- c. It is what we are called to do (v. 12)
- d. Because we will give an account (v. 14) (Lu. 12:48)

IV. Freely \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 17-19)

- a. Recognize the Donor (v. 17)
  - Don’t be proud – “be not high-minded” (Lu. 12:16-21) (Ps. 49:6-7)
  - Don’t trust in your “uncertain” riches (isn’t that true!) (Ps. 62:10; Pr. 11:4, 28; 23:5)
- b. Be Ready to Distribute (v. 18)
- c. Reap a heavenly Deposit (v. 19)