

(ABC's that threaten Christian living)

# Covetousness And Greed

By Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1986 (Rev. 99)

## **Timeless Truths** (Why should covetousness and greed be avoided?)

1. One of the activities of those who did not retain God in their knowledge was to exercise covetousness, (Rom. 1:28-29).
2. One of the activities of those who have not been washed, sanctified, and justified, was to exercise covetousness, (1 Cor. 6:9-12; Col. 3:5-7).
3. One of the activities of the Gentiles who are ignorant of God is to exercise greediness, (Eph. 4:17-19).
4. Placing an emphasis on wealth and personal gain can cause spiritual harm, (1 Tim. 6:9-10; Rev. 3:17; Prov. 28:16,20; Ps. 119:36-37).
5. Covetousness manifests the essence of idolatry, (Col. 3:5).

## **Practical Prescriptions** (How can I control covetousness and greed?)

### ***1. Restrict your sphere of "companionship!"***

(Psalms 10:3; 49:5-9)

- A. Avoid the company of a Christian who is covetous, 1 Cor. 5:11.
- B. Avoid the company of the unregenerate who are covetous, 2 Tim. 3:1-5.
- C. Avoid the company of teachers who say godliness is a means of gain, 1 Tim. 6:5

### ***2. Redefine your standard of "contentment!"***

(Prov. 1:19; 28:22; 30:8; Ps. 62:10)

- A. Having food and clothing let us be content, 1 Tim. 6:7-8.
- B. Be content with such things as you have, Heb. 13:5.
- C. Christians should not let covetousness be named among them, Eph. 5:1-3.

### ***3. Rebuild your skills of "control!"***

(Prov. 15:27; 21:25-26)

- A. "Put to death" members which practice covetousness, Col. 3:5.  
("mortify" or "put to death" means "to render as dead, to regard as impotent or powerless." The will of the believer must respond negatively to the impulses of the sin nature to use the physical parts of the human body for illicit purposes." The believer must willingly and actively overcome the desires of the sin nature with him.)
- B. Do not trust in uncertain riches, 1 Tim. 6:17.
- C. When you have extra, seek out ways to help others, rather than storing it for self, 1 Tim. 6:18.