
GET RICH SLOW SCHEME

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-8



I worked in the financial services industry in my early twenties, and met lots of people with lots of money. That looked really good. But, I also noticed that even the richest people never had enough. They were rich by any objective standard but they didn't *feel* rich. They felt that they needed more to not only *be* rich but *feel* rich.

Even if we're not rich, we all want to be just a bit richer. Yet no matter how much more we get, it's never enough. We never feel rich.

In 1 Timothy 6:6-8, Paul gives us the solution. He tells us not only how to be rich but how to feel rich.

- **WE GET RICH THROUGH GODLINESS**
- **WE FEEL RICH THROUGH CONTENTMENT**

LEARNING

WE GET RICH THROUGH GODLINESS

Paul condemned the false teachers for using godliness for personal gain (6). Now Paul commends godliness as gain. **But godliness with contentment is great gain (6).** We'll look at contentment in a minute but notice how Paul re-defines the whole concept of wealth. Godliness is not a way to riches but is riches. If we are godly, we are rich.

GAIN IS NOT GODLINESS
BUT GODLINESS IS GAIN

"OK, but how do I *feel* rich?"

WE FEEL RICH THROUGH CONTENTMENT

While godliness makes us rich, contentment makes us *feel* rich. **Godliness with contentment is great gain (6).**

How do we get contentment? Paul's already taken us halfway there by his re-definition of riches as godliness. Contentment takes us the whole way there by giving us two labels.

The first label is for putting on what we don't have. The label is: **If we have food and clothing, with these we will be content (8).** We can shorten that to: **I have food and clothing.** "I may not have this or that but I have enough. I have all I need."

The second label is: **For we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world (7).** **Let's shorten it to: Nothing in. Nothing out.** We come in to this world empty and we leave this world empty. **Nothing in. Nothing out.**

Put this label on all possessions. **Nothing in. Nothing out.** Put this label on all commercials. **Nothing in, nothing out.** Put this label on all people. No matter how rich, **Nothing in. Nothing out.** Put this label on all things at all times. When we get something we always wanted. **Nothing in. Nothing out.** When we get too attached to something we have. **Nothing in. Nothing out.** When we lose something we treasured. **Nothing in. Nothing out.**

EVEN IF WE GET EVERYTHING
WE GO OUT WITH NOTHING

LOVING

Let's praise God for freeing us from the bondage of wanting more and more yet never feeling it's enough. Let's thank him for helping us re-define godliness as riches and for providing these two contentment labels. **I have food and clothing and Nothing in. Nothing out.**

And let's love Jesus more who though he had nothing, yet had everything. He didn't have a dime in his pocket, he didn't even have a place to sleep (Matt. 8:20). Yet he was always perfectly content. What a Savior!

LIVING

Let's get rich and feel rich through godliness plus contentment because **Godliness + Contentment = Great Wealth.**
