

“WHAT IS MORE DANGEROUS – MONEY OR THEOLOGY?”

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

What would your answer be to the title of this article? “What is more dangerous – money or theology?” Money would be the easy answer. 1 Tim 6:6-10 But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. KJV

To love money more than God is obviously sin. Matt 6:24 No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. NLT

People who rob God by not giving their first fruits to Him, their tithe, prove that money means more to them than living in obedience to the Word of God.

But is money more spiritually dangerous than theology? Money is something that is tangible and countable but theology is something that can be just as dangerous. We all know people who are in love with their money, but I also know people who are in love with their theology. In fact, they are more in love with their knowledge of God than they are in love with God himself. We must make sure that our knowledge of Him is not more important to us than our relationship with Him.

One example of this in Scripture is the Pharisees. They claimed to love the Word, yet they hated Jesus, THE WORD, who became flesh and was walking and talking among them. They fought Him at every turn. They tried their best to trap Him in a lie or inconsistency. They knew the book, but they didn't know the God of the book.

They were so confident in their theology that they confronted God Himself. Their education and pride, their knowledge and confidence in their own belief and understanding, had blinded them to the very image and voice of God. They thought they knew everything that there was to know about God and yet whenever He appeared in flesh before them, they said that He was a man full of the devil.

We know that we should be careful not to allow money to become a god to us, but we should be just as careful about allowing our theology of God to take the place of our relationship with God. Some people read the bible and listen to sermons and go to church but they seldom pray or worship the God they claim to believe in.

I want to encourage you to not only be committed to having a right theology but just as committed to having a right relationship with God. Knowledge about God will not save us, we must have Him, His Spirit, living inside of us.