

GOD'S GUARANTEED INVESTMENTS

Could you imagine being able to invest your time, energy, and money into guaranteed high returns **without ANY risk** to investments?

This is what Paul is instructing Timothy to teach the church. This comes from Paul's third imperative of instructions to Timothy (1 Tim.6:12-21).

- (1 Tim 6:12a) Fight (agonize/ p.m.impv.2ps) the good fight of faith
- (1 Tim 6:12b 16) Take hold (epilambano/ a.m.impv.2ps) of eternal life
- **(1 Tim 6:17-19) Instruct (paraggello/ p.a.impv.2ps) believers to take opportunity of God's Guaranteed Investment.**
- (1 Tim 6:20-21) Guard (phullasso/ a.a.impv.2ps) against false teachings that attack New Covenant grace.

In this lesson, we will study four aspects of God's Guaranteed Investments.

1. Notice the word in 1 Tim 6:17 and 1 Tim 6:18 is INSTRUCT (paraggello). But in 1 Tim 6:18, it is italicized.

Paul used the word, instruct, to emphasize both the negative and positive sides to God's Guaranteed Investments. In the imperative (command), it means to charge through instructions.

"Instruct those who are **rich in this world.**"

Warning against rich in what type of investments? _____

Negative (1 Tim 6:17a) – note two attitudes that hindrance God's investments.

- Do not be conceited (me hupselophroneo/ p.infin) [high-minded]
- (Do not) fix hope (elpizo/ perf.a.infin) on uncertainty of riches

Positive (1 Tim 6:17b-18) – note three attitudes that encourage investments

- (Fix hope) on God who richly supplies (parecho/ p.a.ptc.lsm) [to give or provide] us with all things to enjoy.
- Do good (agathoergeo/ p.a.infin) [to be rich in good works] (kalos ergo/ 2 Cor.9:6-8)
- Be (eimi/ p.infin) generous (koinonikos/ aplm) ready to share (eumetadotos/ aplm) –

Just in case we think that this does not include each of us.

(2 Cor.8:9) "For you know **the grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich." (Rom.10:12; 1 Cor.4:8; Rev.2:9)

2. In (1 Tim 6:17b), Paul shows a key positive doctrinal principle regarding God's Guaranteed Investments - "FIX YOUR HOPE on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy."

Time [phase II/ The Christian Way of Life (CWL)] – Be rich, generous, and ready to share in good works (divine production) (Eph.1:7; 3:8; Phil.4:19; 1 Tim.6:18; James 5:1-3)

Eternity (phase.III) – Matt.6:19-21; 1 Cor.3:14

3. Jesus introduced God's Guaranteed Investment program in the parable of Sower.

Jesus showed that the wise investor is the Sower of Good Ground (Matt.13:8, 23).

If a believer's life only enriches himself, he has lost sight of how poverty and riches work in the life of a Christian.

(Rom.10:12) "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; **for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call upon Him.**"

To the Sower of the Good Ground, God assigns a guaranteed grace amount (**30, 60, or 100 times**).

- Widow's mite (Mark 12:41-44)
- Barns (Luke 12:15-21; Eccl.2:9-11; 5:13-16)

4. Now Paul makes another great point about God's Guaranteed Investments:

(1 Tim **6:19**) "Storing up for themselves the **treasure of a good foundation for the future (ph.III), so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.**"

- What is "Life indeed?" Jonah discovered the answer in the belly of the sea monster (Jonah 2).
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego discovered the answer in the fiery furnace (Dan.3).

In the World: Life is what you make of it (world view/ Cosmos Diabolicus).

In God: Life is what God makes of it (Divine viewpoint/ Eccl.3:12, 15)

The tragedy is when an **unbeliever** spends his entire life investing in uncertainty of riches of world and in the end losses his own soul.

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and to forfeit his soul? **For what** will a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:36-37; Luke 16:19-31)

TRUE RICHES ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE PRESENT WORLD.