Some Money Traps
I Tim 6:6-11

Introduction:
A. Paul warns Timothy against falling to money traps (vv. 9-11)
   1. A problem for both rich and poor (cf. Prov. 30:8, 9)
   2. Especially a problem for Christians in times of prosperity.
B. Some “money traps”:

Discussion:
   A. Produces worry. (Mt. 6:34-34).
   B. Crowds out word. (Mt. 13:22)
II. A Self-inflated Living Standard. (1 Tim. 6:8; cf. “Keeping up with Jones”)
   A. Maintaining it takes time away from family.
      1. “Moonlighting” fathers.
      2. Working mothers. (cf. Tit. 2:5)
      3. Even working children.
   B. Maintaining crowds out spiritual exercise.
      1. No time for study or prayer.
      2. No time for church serves - Bible classes.
      3. No time to teach, visit, etc.
III. Abusing Surplus.
   A. Go places don’t need to go: wild parties, worldly clubs, etc.
   B. Buy things don’t need to buy: Alcohol, drugs, etc.
   C. Children with too much spending money.
IV. Hoarding Riches.
   A. By failing to pay just wages. (Jas. 5:1-5).
   B. By failing to give as should. (cf. Mal. 3:8).
   C. By failing to care for our own. (1 Tim. 5:8).
   D. By sponging while have means. (cf. 1 Tim. 5:4,16)
V. Measuring Success In Dollars and Cents. (1 Tim. 6:5; Cf. Phil. 4:11,12).
   A. Successes with money: Abraham, Joseph of Armathea cf. 1 Tim. 6:19-20.
   B. Successes without money: Jesus (Lk. 9:58); Paul (1 Cor. 4:10-13)
   C. Failures with money (Rev. 3:17; Lk. 12:16-21; Mk. 8:36).
   D. Failures without money. (Prov. 30:9; Eph. 4:28).
VI. Thinking Of Basic Human Needs In Economic Terms (cf. Lk. 12:15; Mt. 4:4)
   A. The social gospel concept.
   B. Child rearing concepts.
VII. Trying To Buy Respect With Donations. (Mt. 6:1-4)
   A. Using charity to feed own ego.
VIII. Substituting Dollars For Deeds (1 Tim. 6:18; cf. 2 Cor. 8:5).
   A. In home: child rearing, hospitality.
   B. In community: Send check easier than going (cf. Mt. 25:42-45; Jas. 1:27).
   C. In church: Pay preacher to do our study, teaching, etc. — Miss the point that we need to do the work for personal growth. (cf. Heb. 5:12-14).

Conclusion:
A. Thank God for prosperity - pray for wisdom to use it.
B. Trust God, not riches.