

## STEWARDSHIP IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY (ADDITIONAL MATERIAL)

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Recognizing that it is vital that the teacher becomes consumed with the subject matter of his/her lesson, we have provided some (actually quite a bit) additional information. On the next few pages you will find additional material dealing with the topics of *eternity* and *materialism* which can be used to prepare your own heart for teaching this series of lessons, as well as inserted in the lessons themselves. Of course with this material, you can "copy and paste" to include it with your lessons.

### Heaven/Eternal Perspective

In the third century, a church father, Cyprian, said:

*Let us greet the day which assigns each one of us to his own home and sets us free from the snares of this world and restores us to paradise and the kingdom. Anyone who has been to foreign lands longs to return to his own native land. ... We regard paradise (heaven) as our native land.*

The great 19<sup>th</sup> century evangelist, D.L. Moody once said:

*Soon you will read in the newspaper that I am dead. Don't believe it for a moment. I will be more alive than ever before.*

On his death bed, Moody said:

*Earth recedes ... Heaven opens before me!*

Some years ago radio evangelist, Charles E. Fuller, announced that he would speak the following Sunday on "Heaven." It was to be broadcast on radio. During that week he received a letter from an elderly gentleman who was very ill. Here is part of that letter:

*Next Sunday you are to talk about 'Heaven.' I am interested in that land because I have held a clear title to a bit of property there for over 55 years. I did not buy it. It was given to me without money and without price. But the donor purchased it for me at a tremendous sacrifice. I am not holding it for speculation since the title is non-transferable. It is not a vacant lot. For more than a half-century I have been sending material out of which the greatest architect and builder of the universe has been building a home for me, which will never need to be repaired because it will suit me perfectly, individually, and will never grow old. Termites can never undermine its foundation for it rests upon the Rock of Ages. Fire cannot destroy it. Floods cannot wash it away. No locks or bolts will ever be placed upon its doors, for no vicious person can ever enter that land where my dwelling stands, now almost completed and ready for me to enter it and abide in peace eternally without fear of being ejected. There is a valley of deep shadow between the place where I live in California and that to which I shall journey in a very short time. I cannot reach my home in the City of God without passing through the dark valley of shadows. But I am not afraid, because the best friend that I have ever had went through the same valley alone, a long, long, time ago and drove away all the gloom. He has stuck by me through thick and thin since we first met and became acquainted 55 years ago, and I hold. His promise in printed form, never to forsake nor to leave me alone. He will be with me as I walk through the valley of shadows, and I shall not lose my way when He is with me. I hope to hear your sermon on "Heaven" next Sunday from my home, but I have no assurance that I shall be able to do so. My ticket to heaven has no date marked for the journey...no return coupon...and no permit for baggage. Yes, I am ready to go and may not be here while you are talking next Sunday, but I shall meet you there someday.*

*"... I AM CONVINCED THAT THE GREATEST DETERRENT TO OUR GIVING IS THIS: THE ILLUSION THAT EARTH IS OUR HOME."*

*-Randy Alcorn "Money, Possessions and Eternity"*

Those early Christian perspectives sound almost foreign and “freakish” to us today. But their beliefs were grounded in God’s eternal Word. As human beings, we all have a terminal disease called mortality. The current death rate is 100 percent. Unless Christ returns soon, we are all going to die. We don’t like to think about death; yet, worldwide 3 people die every second, 180 people die every minute, and nearly 11,000 every hour. If the Bible is right about what happens to us after death, more than 250,000 people every day go to either heaven or hell. May it be said of us that we sought our happiness in that place called heaven and for He who sits upon heaven’s throne –the Lord Jesus Christ. The great 19<sup>th</sup> century preacher, J.C. Ryle once wrote:

*The man who is about to sail for Australia or New Zealand as a settler, is naturally anxious to know something about his future home, its climate, its employments, its inhabitants, its ways, its customs. All these are subjects of DEEP INTEREST to him. You are leaving the land of your nativity, you are going to spend the rest of your life in a new hemisphere. It would be strange indeed if you did not desire information about your new abode. Now surely, if we hope to dwell forever in that “better country, even a heavenly one,” we ought to seek all the knowledge we can get about it. Before we get to our eternal home we should try to become acquainted with it.*

Ryle also said, “I pity the man who never thinks about heaven.”

In *The Eclipse of Heaven*, theology professor A. J. Conyers writes,

*Even to one without religious commitment and theological convictions, it should be an unsettling thought that this world is attempting to chart its way through some of the most perilous waters in history, having now decided to ignore what was for nearly two millenia its fixed point of reference –its North Star. The certainty of judgment, the longing for heaven, the dread of hell: these are not prominent considerations in our modern discourse about the important matters in life. But they once were.*

How can we set our hearts and minds on heaven when we have such an impoverished theology of heaven? How can we expect our children to get excited about heaven – or stay excited about it when they grow up? Puritan **Richard Baxter** wrote: “I know that Christ is all; and that it is the presence of God that makes Heaven to be Heaven. But yet it much sweetens the thoughts of that place to me that there are such a multitude of my most dear and precious friends in Christ.”

**J.C. Ryle** once preached a sermon called “Christ is All” based on Colossians 3:11. In this message he said:

*But alas, how little fit for heaven are many who talk of ‘going to heaven’ when they die, while they manifestly have no saving faith, and no real acquaintance with Christ. You give Christ no honor here. You have no communion with Him. You do not love Him. Alas! What could you do in heaven? It would be no place for you. Its joys would be no joys for you. Its happiness would be a happiness into which you could not enter. Its employments would be weariness and a burden to your heart. Oh, repent and before it is too late!*

Concerning heaven **Paul Rees** wrote:

*“We talk about gates of pearl and streets of gold and walls of jasper, and we are thrilled; but those things would not be attractive if Jesus were not there. His presence is what will make heaven such a grand place.”*

In his book *And the Life Everlasting* John Baillie tells of a Scottish physician who was attending to a close personal friend in his last hours of life. The man asked the physician, who was a believer, “Tell me, you are a believer. What will it be like after I die?” There was a moment of silence. Suddenly there was a scratching at the bedroom door. The doctor turned to his friend and said, “Did you hear that? It’s my dog. He’s been waiting patiently for me downstairs and has become impatient. He has never been in this room. He has no idea what it is like. He knows only one thing about it and that is that I am here. And that’s all I know about the future and heaven ... He’s there!”

Someone once said to **Fanny Crosby**, "Too bad that you are blind. With all of your gifts it's too bad that God withheld your sight." To which she replied,

*"My first request at birth would have been that God would remove my sight. Because when I get to heaven the first sight that I will behold will be that of my Savior's face."*

As one pastor/author wrote:

*"Today – as in every generation – it is stunning to watch the shift away from God as the all-satisfying gift of God's love. It is stunning how seldom God Himself is proclaimed as the greatest gift of the Gospel. ... The supreme demonstration of God's love was the sending of His Son to die for our sins and to rise again so that sinners might have the right to approach God and might have the pleasure of His presence forever. ... The critical question for our generation – and for every generation – is this: If you could have heaven, with no sickness, and with all the friends you have ever had on the earth, and all the food you ever liked, and all the leisure activities you ever enjoyed, and all the natural beauties you ever saw, all the physical pleasures you ever tasted, and no human conflict or any natural disasters, could you be satisfied with heaven, **IF CHRIST WAS NOT THERE?** And the question for Christian leaders is: Do we preach and teach and lead in such a way that people are prepared to hear and answer that question and answer with a resounding No?"*

## Stewardship

Wesley used his own life as an example: "I gain all I can" in profitable labor; "I save all I can" by frugal living; and "by giving all I can I am effectually secured from 'laying up treasures on earth.'" These were no idle boasts: as Wesley's royalty earnings grew, his self-imposed annual personal budget stayed at 30 pounds, until 98% of his income was given away. He lived up his promise that "If I leave behind me ten pounds.... You and all mankind bear witness against me that "I lived and died a thief and a robber." (Harvey p. 78, 79)

All I am possessed of is in the purse – every penny! Save for myself? Never! When money is sent me for my own use, I pass it on to God. As much as five thousand dollars has thus been sent at one time, but I do not regard such gifts as belonging to me; they belong to Him, whose I am, and whom I serve. Save for myself? I dare not save; it would dishonor my loving gracious, all-bountiful Father. (George Mueller)

Anthony Groves, a contemporary of George Mueller, was a wealthy dentist who, after becoming convicted about what the Bible says about wealth, sold his possessions, gave away most of the proceeds, and took his family to India as missionaries. The following quotes are from Groves' book *Christian Devotedness*:

*I still believe that he means simply what He says in "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth" etc. There is an eye-slave in this doctrine, when received by faith that wonderfully cleans the field of our spiritual perceptions. (p.5)*

*Can we with any truth be said to love that neighbor as ourselves when we allow him to start while we have enough and to spare? (p. 26)*

*All our misconceptions on this subject seem to arise from one deeply rooted opinion, learnt of Satan and the world over which he presides, that riches and comforts are better for our children than poverty and dependence. The whole tenor of the New Testament, however, pronounces the opinion to be false. (p. 28)*

The World Bank divides countries into four categories: low income, lower middle income, upper middle income and high income. According to the World Bank, "Economies are divided according to 2002 GNI [Gross National Income] per capita, calculated using the World Bank Atlas method. The groups are: low income, \$735 or less; lower middle income, \$736-\$2,935; upper middle income, \$2,936-\$9,075; and high income, \$9,076 or more.

The *Low-income countries* (\$735 or less) include approximately 2.5 billion people; the *Lower-middle income countries* (\$736-\$2,935) include approximately 2.4 billion people; *Upper-middle income countries* (\$2,936-\$9,075); include approximately 329 million people; *High-income countries* (\$9,076 or more).

Needless to say, the United States of America falls into the category of *High-income countries*, and has a per capita GNI of \$37,610, which is second only to Switzerland's \$39,880 GNI (this is an old statistic)! Consider the world as if it were shrunk down to a community of 1000 people. In our community of 1000 people:

- ❑ 180 (18%) of us live up on a hill called the developed world, while 820 (82%) of the population live on the rocky bottom called the rest of the world.
- ❑ The fortunate 180 (18%) of us on the hill have 80% of the community's wealth, over half of the rooms in the community with an average of over two rooms per person, 85% of all the automobiles, 80% of all the televisions, 93% of all the telephones, and an average income of \$5,000.00 per year.
- ❑ The not-so-fortunate 82% of the people who live on the rocky bottom of the hill (rest of the world) have to get by on an average of \$700.00 per person per year, many of them on less than \$75.00 per person per year. They average five persons per room.
- ❑ One-third (33%) of those living on the bottom of the hill are suffering from malnutrition.

Regardless of the fact that we fall in the top 18% of the world population when it comes to prosperity, we still desire more!!!

### Let's Take a Little Walk

Let's walk into our homes, starting in the living room. As we walk through the living room, let's take inventory. First, we see our color television (in many cases big screen TV), then there's the VCR, and the DVD player, can't forget the stereo, the beautiful furniture, and, of course, the wall-to-wall carpet. For some of us, there may even be a piano. Take a few moments to tally up the cost, for the living room alone.

Then, we enter the dining room, considering the cost of the beautiful dining room set. From there we enter the kitchen – with all of its gadgets (refrigerator, stove, automatic dishwasher, microwave, toaster etc...) – and we take a few moments to get an approximate cost for these gadgets.

We must not stop in the kitchen, but must go on into each of the bedrooms and trying to get an estimate of how much we have spent on the beds, the dressers (check that jewelry in the jewelry box on top of the dresser), the lamp stands, and any gadgets (stereos, televisions, video games, DVDs, etc...) that we might have placed, for our convenience in the rooms that once were basically set aside for sleeping. Don't forget to peek in all those nice big closets (that is always a selling point, isn't it?) and take a brief inventory of those clothes hanging up.

Of course, we can't stop inside the house. We must also take a few minutes to enter the garage, estimating the cost of our car (or cars), the bicycles, the tools and any other tidbits that may just be lying around. Don't forget the lawn mower (power lawn mower of course) and all the other extras that enable us to have a nice lawn to impress the neighbors, or were we doing that for the glory of God – **just a thought!**

Then, depending on just how much God has "blessed us," we have to consider also the cost of that personal computer, those jet skis, the boat, the motorcycles, pool tables, and other "toys." There is so much more that could be inventoried, but this should be enough to make our case. After taking inventory, we must also consider how much the house, itself, cost. We must not forget those added costs of home improvements, added rooms and such. Now, let's get our calculator out. How much have we spent?

### Now, let's put things in perspective!

We must now take that total and compare it with how much we have given back to the cause of Christ, whether to support missionaries, to support the work of ministry in our own community, to support expansion or beautification of God's house, or to care for those in need, including the feeding of the poor. **Is it possible for those of us who, despite popular opinion have prospered, live in abundance and affluence and have no real need that is left unmet, to truly understand poverty? Can those of us who seldom, if ever, miss a meal, whose closets are overflowing with clothes to wear, and whose modern day trinkets and toys clutter our homes and our garages, and in many cases self-storage units, understand the difference between prosperity and poverty?**

**Is it possible for those of us who flippantly spend more for a meal at a fast food restaurant than 25 percent of the world makes in any given day truly feel the pain of those who, unlike us, often cry themselves to sleep because of hunger?**

**Of course, the answer is a resounding NO!** Every Bible-believing Christian must ask himself, "In what ways has my attitude towards money and material possessions affected my attitude towards the Master and morality?" In the words of **Dom Helder Camara**:

*I used to think when I was a child that Christ might have been exaggerating when he warned about the dangers of wealth. Today, I know better. I know how hard it is to be rich and still keep the milk of human kindness. Money has a very dangerous way of putting scales on one's eyes ...*

***Wealth**, when not properly governed, is a stronghold of evil. Many, because of casting their eyes on it, will never reach the kingdom of heaven. For they are sick for the things of this world, and are living proudly through **luxury**. ... **Love of money is found to be the stronghold of evil** ... But the best riches is the poverty of desires. And the true magnanimity is not to be proud of wealth, but to despise it.*

-Clement, 195 A.D

*There is, however, one aspect of the American culture that I believe has become a curse rather than a blessing for Christians. It is the American preoccupation with **consumerism** or as some call it, **materialism**. Materialism is one of the pressures of this world that is shaping us into its image, and it is even packaged in red, white and blue.*

-Pastor, Donald Thomas

*I know of no other country where **love of money** has such a grip on men's hearts ...*

-Alexis de Tocqueville

In 1923 at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, eight of the most powerful and wealthy men in the world gathered together for a meeting. These eight, if they combined their resources and assets, controlled more money than the U.S. Treasury. In that group we find such men as Charles Schwab, the president of a steel company. Richard Whitney was the president of the New York Stock Exchange. Arthur Cutton was a wheat speculator. Albert Fall was a presidential cabinet member, personally a very wealthy man. Jesse Livermore was the greatest bear on Wall Street in his generation. Leon Fraser was the president of the International Bank of Settlements. And Ivan Krueger headed the largest monopoly in the world. Quite an impressive, and ambitious group of people to say the least. Let's look at the same group of men later in life.

- Charles Schwab died penniless.
- Richard Whitney spent the rest of his life serving a sentence in Sing-Sing Prison.
- Arthur Cutton became insolvent. Albert Fall was pardoned from a federal prison so he might die at home. Leon Fraser committed suicide.
- Jesse Livermore committed suicide. Ivan Krueger also committed suicide.
- Seven of these eight ambitious money-magnates lived lives that ended in disaster before they passed on from this life.

One interesting sign of the times is that we actually have more shopping centers (46,438) than we do high schools (22,180); and, this is a recent phenomenon. In fact, up until 1986 we had more high schools than we did shopping centers. As the authors of *Affluenza* note: "In the age of *Affluenza* (as we believe this current period will be called), shopping centers have supplanted churches as a symbol of cultural values. In fact, 70 percent of us visit the malls each week, more than attend houses of worship."

- We now spend two-thirds of our \$11 trillion economy on consumer goods. For example, we spend more on shoes, jewelry, and watches (\$100 billion) than on higher education (\$99 billion).
- We spend as much on auto maintenance as on religious and welfare (helping others) activities.
- We are informed that "Americans now spend six hours a week shopping and only forty minutes playing with our kids."
- The average American possess 6.5 credit cards, for a nation-wide total of 1.2 billion. One in three high school seniors and 83 percent of college undergraduates have credit cards.

- Americans now spend nearly seven times as much time shopping as they do playing with their kids.
- We spend an average of six hour per week shopping and only forty minutes per week playing with our children.
- Americans are doing a whole lot of shopping at home also. Eighteen billion mail order catalogs flooded our homes last year, about seventy for each one of us. Mail order catalog sales are expected to total \$143 billion. Then there are the Home Shopping Channels. Americans now spend an average of eleven hours each week online, spending over \$50 billion online in 2003. EBay is the biggest winner, with \$23 billion in sales in 2003!
- In 1980, U.S. household debt stood at 65 percent of disposable income (income available after taxes). Today, the average debt has skyrocketed to 125 percent!
- An amazing comparison, which surely reveals that the spirit of materialism is alive and well (very well in fact) in America today, is our housing. The average size of new homes is now much more than double than it was in the 1950s, and this despite the fact that we have smaller families.
- According to LaNita Wacker, who owns Dream House Realty in Seattle, informs us that the average homes built right after WWII were only 750 square feet; by the early 1950s, the average square footage was 950; in the sixties it went up to 1,100 square feet, and by the 1970s houses had increased to approximately 1,350 square feet. As if that wasn't enough, things really have jumped over the past thirty years. Today, the average new house is over 2,320 square feet. Keep in mind that our families were shrinking as the square footage of our homes was more than doubling – doesn't sound like a "necessity" to me. How about you?
- According to the authors of *Affluenza*, our garages today are often larger than our homes of just forty years ago. Add to this the fact that in the past forty years a new industry has blossomed. What industry is this? The Self-Storage industry has become a \$12 billion a year industry (surpassing the music industry) because though we have houses more than double the size of our homes forty years ago, and our garages are roomier than our homes of just a generation ago, we still don't have enough room for all of our "stuff," thus the need for Self-Storage units.
- Then of course, let's not forget all of our other "necessities." Have you noticed our cars? How about those electronic gadgets (TVs, stereos, computers, ipods, etc...)? How about our various "toys" (classic cars, boats, jet skis, etc...)?

The average size of new homes is now more than double what it was in the 1950s, while families are smaller.

- 750 square feet was the norm right after WWII
- 950 square feet was the norm in the 1950s
- 1,100 square feet was the norm in the 1960s
- 1,350 square feet was the norm in the 1970s
- 2,300 square feet is the norm in today

**And all of this with smaller families!** It really wasn't until the early seventies that homes moved from single bath to a demand for double bath. It was also about this time where the two car garage became a "necessity." By the late 1980s many homes were being built with garages with "as much square footage as an entire family used in the early 1950s." A master bedroom in the 1950s would be about 130 square feet, now even in moderately priced homes, you are talking about 300 square feet for the master bedroom.

*During the days of the Iron Curtain, a persecuted Romanian pastor said, "In my experience, 95% of believers who face the test of persecution pass it, while 95% who face the test of prosperity fail it." This is what Thomas Carlyle meant when he penned these words: "Adversity is sometimes hard upon a man, but for one man who can stand prosperity, there are a hundred that will stand adversity."*

## TEN STEPS TO BREAK THE CYCLE:

- ❑ **Step One**, Make a commitment to live in accordance to the dictates of **Scripture**, rather than the dictates of **society**!
- ❑ **STEP TWO**, Recognize the **severity** of the problem and understand that we are talking about sin when we talk about materialism!

### **ILLUS ...** Jad

*Do an inventory of your prosperity and possessions!*

- ❑ **STEP THREE**, If we are not tithing, **tithe**!
- ❑ **STEP FOUR**, Now, start giving something **above** the tithe!
- ❑ **STEP FIVE**, Start making changes to your **budget**. Cut out some of the fringe stuff!
  - \*Eat out fewer times each week
  - \*Determine to spend less on clothing
  - \*Determine to spend far less on gifts
- ❑ **STEP SIX**, Don't let the spirit of materialism, especially by way of **advertising**, convince you that "wants" are in reality, needs!

### **ILLUS ...** My trip to Ralphs

- ❑ **STEP SEVEN**, Be **content** with what God has given you and make a decision to live a more simple life!
- ❑ **STEP EIGHT**, Don't compare yourself with those who have more than you have, but with those who have **less** than you have!
- ❑ **STEP NINE**, Consider down sizing rather than **upgrading**!
- ❑ **STEP TEN**, Make a commitment to **increase** your giving an additional 15% to 20% every time you get a raise in pay!

“Don’t just increase your standard of living, but increase your standard of giving.”

## THE PERILS OF PROSPERITY

1. Spoiled Children
2. Small Compromises
3. Spiritual Forgetfulness
4. Stunted Spiritual Growth
5. Stopping Short of God’s Purpose for Your Life

**The Bible makes an unbelievable claim. We find these words, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35) in God’s eternal Word. Why? Let’s consider just a few reasons:**

### 1. Giving is commanded

- *Trust and obey for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey.*

### 2. Giving breaks the spirit of materialism over our lives

### 3. Giving to a good cause enables you to be a part of something bigger than yourself

### 4. Giving allows us the opportunity to show others we trust God to take care of our needs

## **25 CONTRADICTIONARY STATEMENTS**

1. The warning that prosperity and possessions causes one to forget and forsake the living God (Deuteronomy 8:10-14), simply isn’t politically-correct in our consumerist driven culture. Nor sir, the more we have, is not only an evidence of God’s blessing upon us but it is surely causing us to love Him all the more!
2. “He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house” (Proverbs 15:27), is no longer relevant. No, in fact, today he that is greedy of gain is simply trying to make life easier for his family!

3. "But he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent" (Proverbs 28:20) has changed to "He that desires to be rich, is not only innocent, but to be imitated!"
4. "He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver: nor he that is loveth abundance with increase, this is also vanity" (Ecclesiastes 5:10) is archaic, that's Old Testament, we are under grace. This has been changed to money makes the world go round and the more increase you have the better off that you are!
5. "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth" (Matth 6:19), has become he who dies with the most toys, or treasures, wins!
6. "No man can serve two masters" (Matthew 6:24) has changed, we now not only can serve two masters, but we rejoice in the fact that we can!
7. "Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24) has also changed; not only can we serve both God and money, but we can do it and be praised for doing it!
8. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33), but today this has changed to "Seek first to build my personal nest egg and my riches, and then in due time, we will get around to truly seeking and serving the Lord."
9. "The care of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and becometh unfruitful" (Matthew 13:22), is no longer relevant in the twenty-first century. In fact, the more you have the more "fruitful" you are!
10. "Take heed, and beware of covetousness" (Luke 12:15), has been changed, by the good old American dream, to "Get all you can."
11. "For a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15) has been radically transformed to "For a man's life does consist of all that he possesses!"
12. A fool is one "that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich towards God" (Luke 12:21) has changed. Today a fool is one who has not laid up treasure for himself!
13. "Take no thought for your life" (Luke 12:22) has dramatically been altered to "Take much thought for your life."
14. "Silver and gold have I none" (Acts 3:1) has become silver and gold have we plenty, and we want some more!
15. "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35) couldn't possibly be true, I get much more pleasure receiving from God (and others) than I do from giving!
16. "Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor" (2 Corinthians 8:9) couldn't possibly be an example for us to follow, were Americans!
17. "Multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness" (2 Corinthians 9:10) surely must have been Paul's personal opinion. How can we possibly give more and see an increase in the fruits of a righteous life?
18. The warning about comparing ourselves with others as being unwise (2 Corinthians 10:12) cannot possibly be relevant for the twenty-first century. In fact, the only way we can reach our neighbors is if we "Keep up with the Joneses!"

19. "Covetousness which is idolatry" (Colossians 3:5) has also been filtered through the American mindset, and has changed. The desire to have more is no longer the mark of an idolater, but the mark of the inspired.
20. "But godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Tim 6:6) is surely a misnomer. That's only for people who don't have drive and ambition!
21. "But they that will (desire to) be rich fall into temptation" (1 Tim 6:9) has changed with the times to they that desire not to be rich are foolish.
22. "For the love of money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy 6:11) has been changed to "you can love money just don't carry it to an extreme!"
23. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world" (1 John 2:15) has been changed to "It is okay to love the things that are in the world as long as we faithfully attend church and serve in some capacity!"
24. "Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall witness against you..." (James 5:2-3) has been changed by the "revision" committee to "Your riches shall be a witness, not against you, but for you."

