“Godliness”

Intro: Today our text confronts us with this reality: will we love __________ or money? We cannot serve both for love of God and love of money direct our affections in conflicting ways, to opposing ends.

A. The Apostle Paul intends to teach us that love of __________ brings great ________ while the love of ________________ brings great ________. Choose today who you will serve!

I. The true ____________________ of the Gospel.

A. Godliness is gained as one comes to Christ, ________________ in the Good News of ______________ Christ, having Him as their Master! There’s no other way to actually be godly than to have the indwelling Spirit of God at work in you.

B. Contentment comes as one ____________ in Christ, growing in the true ________________ of Him who saved us. That is, contentment depends upon a maturing relationship with Christ through a true knowledge of His Word.

C. The ______________ that comes to the soul as a result of the hearing and believing of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is ____________ and multifaceted. This gain is true, spiritual, and eternal in nature.

D. The prosperity (gain) that comes to the one who is godly and content is immeasurable and consists of such virtues as ________, ________, and ____________! This gain consists of all that is of God and is that which money cannot buy! This mega gain is never lost for it is eternal as it is granted by God. Gain true treasure by ______________ upon the Lord ____________ Christ! And beloved, this is our future gain: heaven itself where we will see our Savior face to face!

E. The true Gospel of ______ teaches us to trust in God for ________________, as it is by His will that we came into this world bringing nothing, and shall exit taking nothing. All our gain in this world was granted us by God for our temporal use, to reveal our souls as stewards, that we might glorify Him. And our need of His material goods (for all belongs to Him!) will end at our death. Let us _____________ about the ______________ things as God cares for our earthly need.

F. The true Gospel of Jesus Christ teaches us to ________________ in the Father for everything, being satisfied in Him, seeking Him first as He provides the necessities of life. If He gave His Son for our salvation, how then will He not provide for our every necessity? ____ ________________ with the Lord's provision.
II. The ______ of the Prosperity Gospel.

A. The prosperity gospel teaches people to lust after money, to give to get. It is nothing but a get rich quick scheme which brings the soul to ruin. Such a lust for money is ______ born of a love for God. There is no ___________ of God in that kind of giving but it shows dissatisfaction in what God has provided for them. These are ______ _____________ with God’s provision but think by giving that God will be obligated to provide more than their food and covering.

B. Love of money is a ______ from which all sorts of _______ I arises.

C. Because the prosperity gospel is based upon a love of money (which is really a love of self) rather than a love of God, it is _______________ to the soul. Those who professed Christ but then reject the true gospel for a false one have denied Christ, and in this their ________ for money has brought them eternal ruin. All for the love ___ _____________! Wake up, O sleeper!

Closing: Jesus said, Matt 6:24, “No one can __________ two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” Beloved you either _________ God supremely or something else, and there is nothing in between. One must love the ___________ God with the entirety of their being and affections.

If upon examination of your heart you see that you have trusted something or someone more than God, would you now ____________, turning from your sorrow causing sin to trust in the Christ of God, who gave Himself to the cross to redeem you for your plight? Or will you continue to flit about as one unstable, searching here and there but filled with discontentment. Which life will you ____________?

And for all who have believed upon the Lord Jesus Christ, today is the day to apply the Scripture we have heard to the living of our lives, that clinging to the Christ of the promises you will live a _______ woven _________ Him, a life of godliness accompanied with contentment. If we have chosen to follow _____________ then we are slaves of God, and it is ours from this moment forward to be doers of this Good Word.

And this is His Word: that as you live the life of Godlikeness He will supply all your need according to _______ _________ in glory!

___________ and obey, for there’s no other way, to be happy in _____________, but to trust and obey.