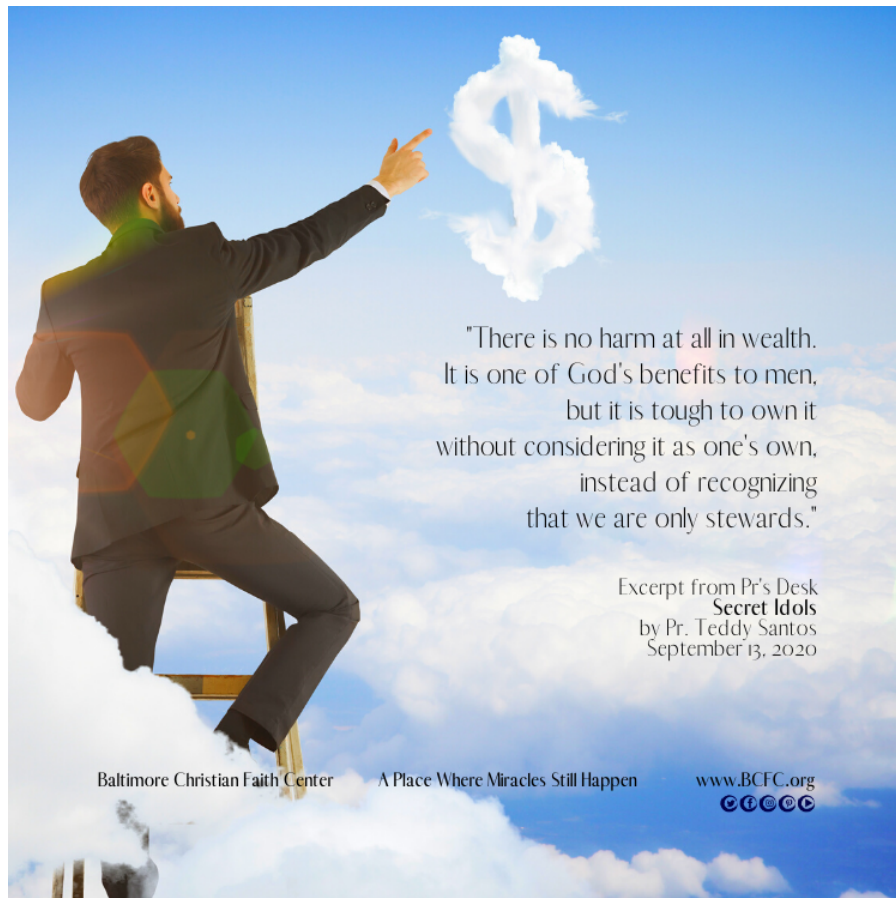


SECRET IDOLS

Pastor's Desk – September 13, 2020



"There is no harm at all in wealth.
It is one of God's benefits to men,
but it is tough to own it
without considering it as one's own,
instead of recognizing
that we are only stewards."

Excerpt from Pr's Desk
Secret Idols
by Pr. Teddy Santos
September 13, 2020

Baltimore Christian Faith Center

A Place Where Miracles Still Happen

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Mar 10:21-22 *"And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions."*

How many people in your circle of friends would you consider know within themselves what their duty is, but neglect to do it because they are hiding some restricted thing? They refuse to propel against the current sweeping past them because they are secretly anchored to a sandbank, or they go from one teacher to another, with an appearance of earnest inquiry after eternal life matters, but never comes to anything because they are reluctant to abandon their secret life.

In the case of this young man, it was a passion for money. The Bible classified him as having "great possessions." There is no harm at all in wealth. It is one of God's

benefits to men, but it is tough to own it without considering it as one's own, instead of recognizing that we are only stewards. It was for this understanding that our Lord proposed this supreme test. It was a particular test put to this seeker after truth, to reveal him, to himself.

The law of Love is not only negative but positive. The essential condition for each of us is to **be willing**; like another young man we know who also was living at that time, "*I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ*" (**Php 3:8**). If you serve the Lord and are prepared to surrender all, you will most likely be entrusted with manifold more, because the Lord knows that He can make you His trusted official with no fear of gold dust clinging to your palms.

Let us guard ourselves against the idol of money or possessions. Riches, which otherwise open the way to most things, will not grant you a passkey to Heaven. Let us see to it that we continually act as administrators of God's property, but also not possible unless we are living unceasingly in fellowship with Him; *that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich* (**2Cor. 8:9**), and who says to us also, "*Come, take up the cross, and follow Me.*"

At His service,
Pr. Teddy Santos