

## MONEY CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS

Years ago there was a man by the name of J. Paul Getty who was one of the wealthiest men in the world, materially speaking. However, he, like many others before and since, found that there are some things money cannot buy. He once told someone that he would gladly give all his millions for just one successful marriage. He had been married five times without finding happiness in a conjugal state. He was heard to say, "The old cliché about money not buying happiness is certainly true." He was in a good position to know. But no matter how many times this well-worn cliché is repeated, the illusion still prevails in the minds of multitudes that if they only had enough money they would be happy.

Instead of producing happiness, great material wealth almost always brings great burdens and cares, and has actually resulted in the ruin of many a man. The Book of Ecclesiastes is a good commentary on the subject. Solomon had great riches but he had found that it was better to have a handful with quietness than to have both hands full with travail and vexation of spirit (Eccl. 4:6). One of his proverbs is, "Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right," and another says, "Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith."

Christ expressed it so well when He said, "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). And David said, "A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked" (Psalm 37:16). From a spiritual perspective "godliness with contentment is great gain" (I Tim. 6:6). Wise men will value this kind of wealth more than any other.

---Elder Ralph Harris