

## “A CHRIST CENTRED LIFE”

### READING: **1 Timothy 6:17**

*“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.”*

### INTRODUCTION:

According to Luke (the author of the book of Acts) **chapter 8** deals primarily with three very important issues. These issues basically deal with the temptations which “riches” and “renown” present to the child of God. The Holy Spirit of God, shows us that the providence of God (through the gospel of Jesus Christ) is the solution to the appeal of “money” and “renown” as things to depend on. (**1 Timothy 6:10**) Three very different persons are depicted in this story and all understood that, depending on that which God provides (the remission of sins and the hope of eternal life through the gospel of Jesus Christ) is immeasurably better than depending on the accumulation of riches.

### DISCUSSION:

#### 1. **Acts 8:9-11; 18-24**

Draws our attention to **Simon “the magician”**:

- a) Only sustainable if it is kept a secret.
- b) Only benefits the conjuror.
- c) Only gains are wealth and notoriety.

#### 2. **Acts 8:5-8**

Draws our attention to **Philip “the miracle worker”**

- a) Performed for the good of all.
- b) Benefits the obedient and contrite of heart.
- c) Its gain: remission of sins and a clean conscience (**Psalm 51:1-17**)

#### 3. **Acts 8:26-39**

Draws our attention to the **Ethiopian eunuch “the treasurer”**

- a) Wealth must be protected and preserved.
- b) Wealth is the means of achieving a social status (not Divine)
- c) Others must not get more (excel in accumulating wealth)

### CONCLUSION:

Dependency on the accumulation of wealth, can never clear the guilty of their sins (**Micah 6:7**) no matter how much it is.

The main challenge is: Where are you going to put your trust?

In Mammon or The Messiah?

**Remember: Not choosing is also a choice. (of rejection?)**