

# South Gate Church of Christ

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**Joe Macer - Speaker**

## Informer



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### Solomon's Thoughts on Money Part 1

**Ecclesiastes 5:10** *He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.*

King Solomon was a man who had unparalleled wealth in his day. Because God was so pleased with his request for wisdom (I Kings 3) He told Solomon that he would give him great riches as well. This resulted in Solomon's ability to gain great insight into possessions, wealth, and the pleasures of the world. I want us to consider a few lessons learned by Solomon about money.

The first one is seen in the verse above. Solomon told us if we love money or wealth then we will not be satisfied with it. Money and the accumulation of wealth can become an insatiable journey. This is why it is so dangerous. Our Lord and Savior referenced money while discussing what will keep people out of heaven more than any other temptation. Paul told Timothy that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil (I Timothy 6:10). Why would we see such harsh words for money? Solomon informs us of one reason. When we decide to love it, we can be sent on an endless, distracted, self-obsessed search for more. We must all ask ourselves, "Do I love money and wealth?" Here are few things that will help gauge our answer to this question. How often do you think and talk about money? Does making or saving money become more important to you than honesty or your relationship with your fellow man? Do you think as much about what you can do for God and others with your wealth as think about yourself? Money is an important subject because of the danger associated with it. It can be the beginning of many problems in this life. This is why we must control our hearts and never give the love of money a hold in our lives because "this also is vanity". See you Sunday!

John

### Meeting Together

**Hebrews 10:25** *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Americans seem to have lost the desire to gather together with other Christians for the purpose of worship. Many claim to be spiritual but see no need to meet together. In 2015 a study was conducted at the Ark Encounter in Kentucky. This attraction has not only religious but agnostics and atheists that tour it. Even other world religions pass through the ark to gather information about the story of Noah and the Ark. Two questions were asked in this study. Did you attend church regularly as a kid? If they answered yes then a second question was asked: Are you still attending most Sundays or did you stop? The results were given for two age groups.

For individuals between ages 20-29, 47% stated they were still attending whereas 53% no longer go. For ages 60-69, 78% were still in attendance while 22% has stopped attending. There are a lot of individuals running around that had religious training as a young person that are no longer to be found in a church building. Universities have played a large role in this. Religion is attacked in the majority of universities and they are being successful. On the other hand 22% of the older age are no longer faithful. Pray that our young people will remain faithful for life. Becoming a Christian is a lifelong commitment. Have your eyes open for those who formerly wanted to worship God and encourage them to come back. There are many around us.

Joe

