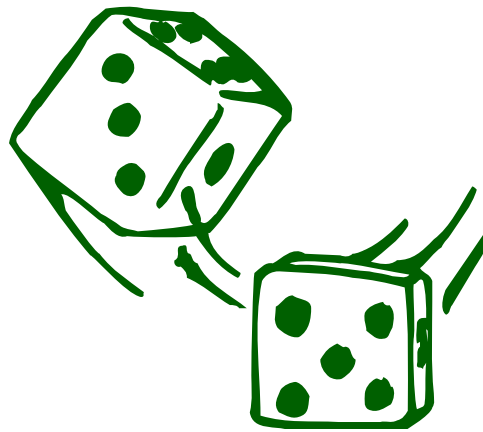


No Sure Get-Rich-Quick Remedies Part #3



Bibleway Ministries
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Reason #2: A Desire to Get Rich Quick

There is a popular saying in marketing—it is easy to sell money. How do you sell money? Simple. You position a product as an investment which pays for itself. For example:

“Your price: just \$499. What’s more, this product practically pays for itself. Within three months, you could easily be making five times your investment every single month! How’s that for ROI (Rate of Investment)? As you can see, there’s almost no risk to you whatsoever.”

And so on.

If you want to get rich quick, it almost doesn’t matter what is offered or how expensive it is. You justify the expense by the future income you imagine you will have. “How easy it will be to pay for this product when I’m earning over \$100,000 a year,” you think to yourself. It is for this reason you see no problem with using your credit card to pay for the product, even if you don’t have cash readily available.

Using student loans to pay for college is often justified by a similar psychological game. Most people dislike learning. Therefore, they do not go to college to learn. Rather, they go to college to get a good job *and* increase their earning power. If not for the money motive, far fewer people would ever go to college.

Unfortunately, whether “investing” in a home study course or a college education, the income you imagined you would earn almost never materializes. If it does materialize, it takes much longer than you expected. And so you are left with a large debt and a big monthly payment. You are worse off than when you started. Here’s the kicker. Those who’ve been infected by the “get-rich-quick” bug often don’t stop with a single purchase. After one failed attempt to become wealthy, they are off to the next opportunity. It’s practically a disease. This is not to say some of these decisions are not good. What is important is that they be carefully thought through. In addition, it makes a difference if you are doing these things because you have a desire to do them. For instance, if the desire is there, many of us will pursue the goal despite the length of time it takes. “A faithful man will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished.” (Proverbs 28:20)

Matthew 6:19-20

19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Matthew 6:33-34

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Proverbs 11:28

28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

Proverbs 22:1

1A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

Mark 4:19

19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

What Do You Think?

1. It is OK to play the lottery since it is sanctioned by the state?
2. Isn't gambling a great "opportunity" to acquire material wealth and comforts?
(Read Proverbs 14:23; 28:22)

Remember, even those who play the lottery and win often look and realize they have made just enough to break even. The temptation when we win is to invest more and more until we gamble away money meant for utility expenses, house notes, and other expenses of far greater importance. The casualties include dissolved marriages and destroyed families.