

Money: Servant or Master?

In the aftermath of the sinking of the ill-fated *Titanic*, reports noted that 11 millionaires had been among the hundreds on board who went to a watery grave in April 1912.

Their combined wealth totaled nearly \$200 million. Yet if these millionaires could have sent a message to the living about the most important things in life, not one would likely have mentioned money.



Newspapers also reported that Maj. A.H. Peuchen of Toronto, who was a survivor of the tragedy, had left more than \$300,000 in money, jewelry, and securities in his cabin. He started back for the box when evacuation efforts began, but then thought an instant and quickly turned away. Later, he said, “The money seemed a mockery at that time. I picked up three oranges instead.”

Money is intended to serve us, not to rule us.

Marguerite Jackson, an Indianapolis widow, was ruled by her wealth. She lived in constant fear that her money would be stolen. When she died, more than \$5 million was found in her home. The money, according to one report, “had brought Mrs. Jackson nothing but a life of private terror.”

How do you regard money today? Is it a tool or a crutch? Is it a prison or a key?

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment (1 Timothy 6:17).

– Beecher Hunter