



Times of Worship

- Sunday Bible Classes:** 9am
Sunday AM Worship: 10am
Sunday PM Worship: 5pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm

Join us Online

Church Website:

<https://www.westfayettechurchofchrist.com/>

YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGckN8D9NwwX3KUbQ4GRKyA>

Interested in a Bible Study?

Please send an email to patcawthon@gmail.com

Evangelist

Patrick Cawthon

Greed Leads To Trouble

Proverbs 15:27 - *“He who profits illicitly troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live”*

There are a lot of proverbs teaching us how to be good stewards with the money God blesses us with. This proverb is stressing the point that we gain the money in a righteous way. Someone who gains a profit, large or small, in an illegal or unlawful way is inviting trouble for him and his entire family.

Think about the story of Achan in Joshua 7. God commanded Israel, *“But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, so that you do not covet them and take some of the things under the ban, and make the camp of Israel accursed and bring trouble on it. But all the silver and gold and articles of bronze and iron are holy to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD.” (Jos 6:18-19)* Achan knew about this command and yet he coveted a mantle from Shinar, 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold fifty shekels in weight and took them for himself. **(Jos 7:21)** Achan profited from the victory over Jericho in an unlawful way.

Now think about how Achan “troubled his own house.” Israel took everything that Achan owned and stoned him and his household and then burned everything with fire. Because of Achan’s greed not

Week of January 21

Attendance

- ✦ **AM Service** - 30
- ✦ **PM Service** - 33
- ✦ **Wednesday** - 42

Contribution

- ✦ Weekly Budget \$2,400
- ✦ Contribution - \$800

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ✦ Lou Scott (2/4)
- ✦ Jude Ferguson (2/8)
- ✦ Lloyd Frugè (2/10)
- ✦ Patrick Cawthon (2/10)
- ✦ Butcher's Anniversary (2/10)

Calendar Items

Men's Meeting on January 28 at the building at 4pm

Women's Bible Study on Tuesdays at 11am at the building

Song Learning Class on February 11 at the building at 4pm

Teen's Bible Study at the Cawthons on Friday February 23 from 7-9:30

only did he not get the mantle, silver and gold, he destroyed his entire family. Not only did he trouble his own household, he troubled all of Israel. It was because of Achan that Israel lost the battle to the small city of Ai.

Achan is not the only person to trouble his household because of his greed, it happens all of the time. People try to gain money by not being honest with their taxes. Betting has gained a lot of popularity and many do it illegally. People bribe others to do what they want, often illegal, by giving them money. People lie about how many hours they work in order to get a bigger paycheck. The list goes on and on.

The second part of this proverb is a description of who we need to be - people who hate bribes. We need to be people of character who are always going to do what is pleasing to God. No amount of money should cause us to do something that is unlawful.

Solomon is teaching us the downside of accepting a bribe and doing things to gain money unlawfully. Not only are we hurting ourselves, we are putting our entire household at risk. Another benefit of hating bribes is the fact that we will live. No amount of money is worth the trouble it brings to those who profits illicitly.

In order to not be swayed by money, we need to be content with what God has given us. We need to see the destructive path to where greed leads us. As the apostle Paul reminds us, *"For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."* (1Ti 6:10)

Work hard and gain a profit in a lawful way. If you don't, you bring trouble to yourself and others.

Patrick