



Riches & Righteousness

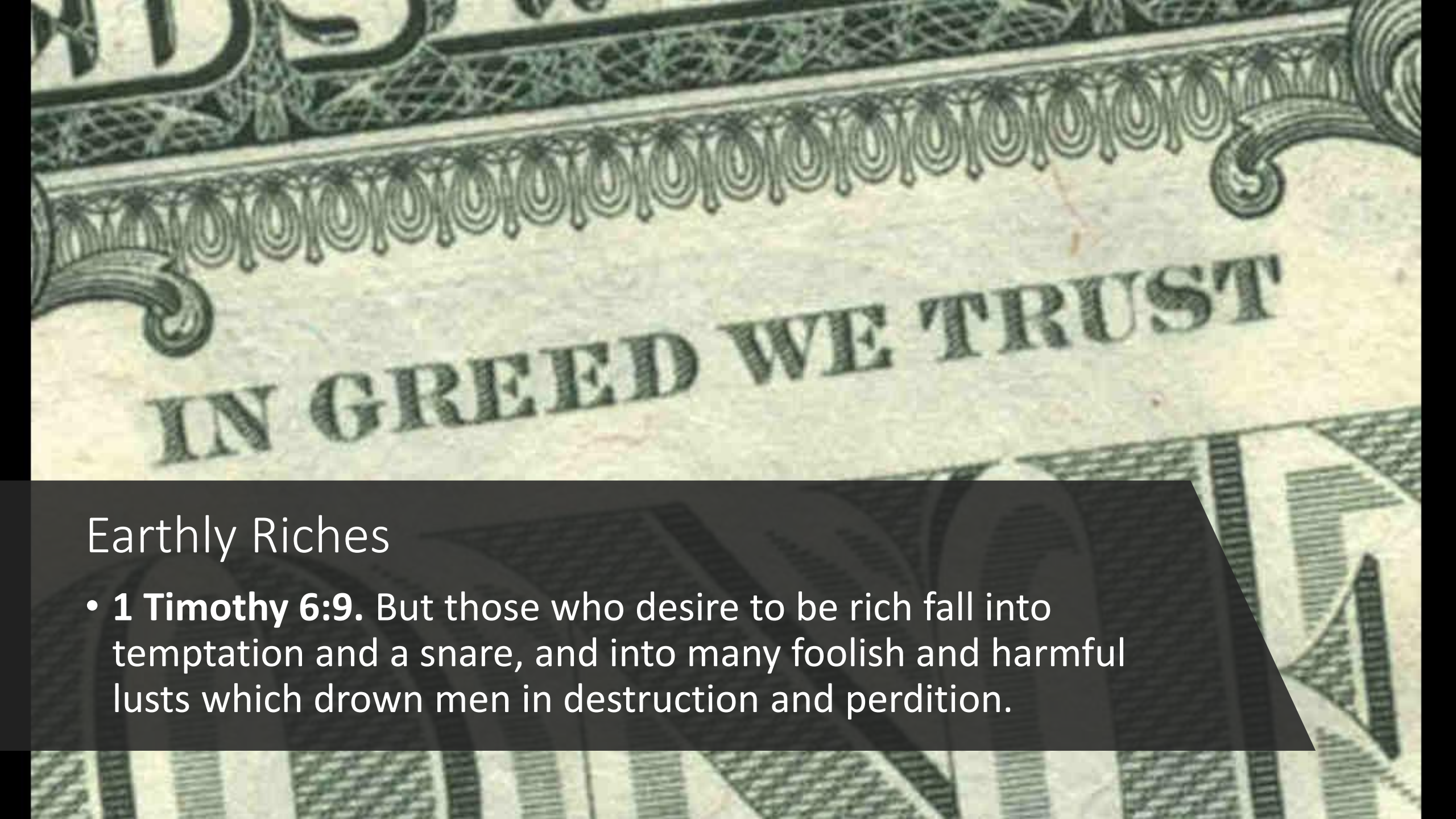
Proverbs 11:4. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteous-ness delivers from death.



Disclaimer

- **1 Timothy 6:10.** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.





IN GREED WE TRUST

Earthly Riches

- **1 Timothy 6:9.** But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

What is Our Treasure?

- **Matthew 13:45-46.**
“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”
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How do I know if I am addicted?

- **Matthew 6:21.**
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



What do we sacrifice for money?

- **Proverbs 11:28.** He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage.



What do we sacrifice for spirituality?

- **James 4:13-14.** Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

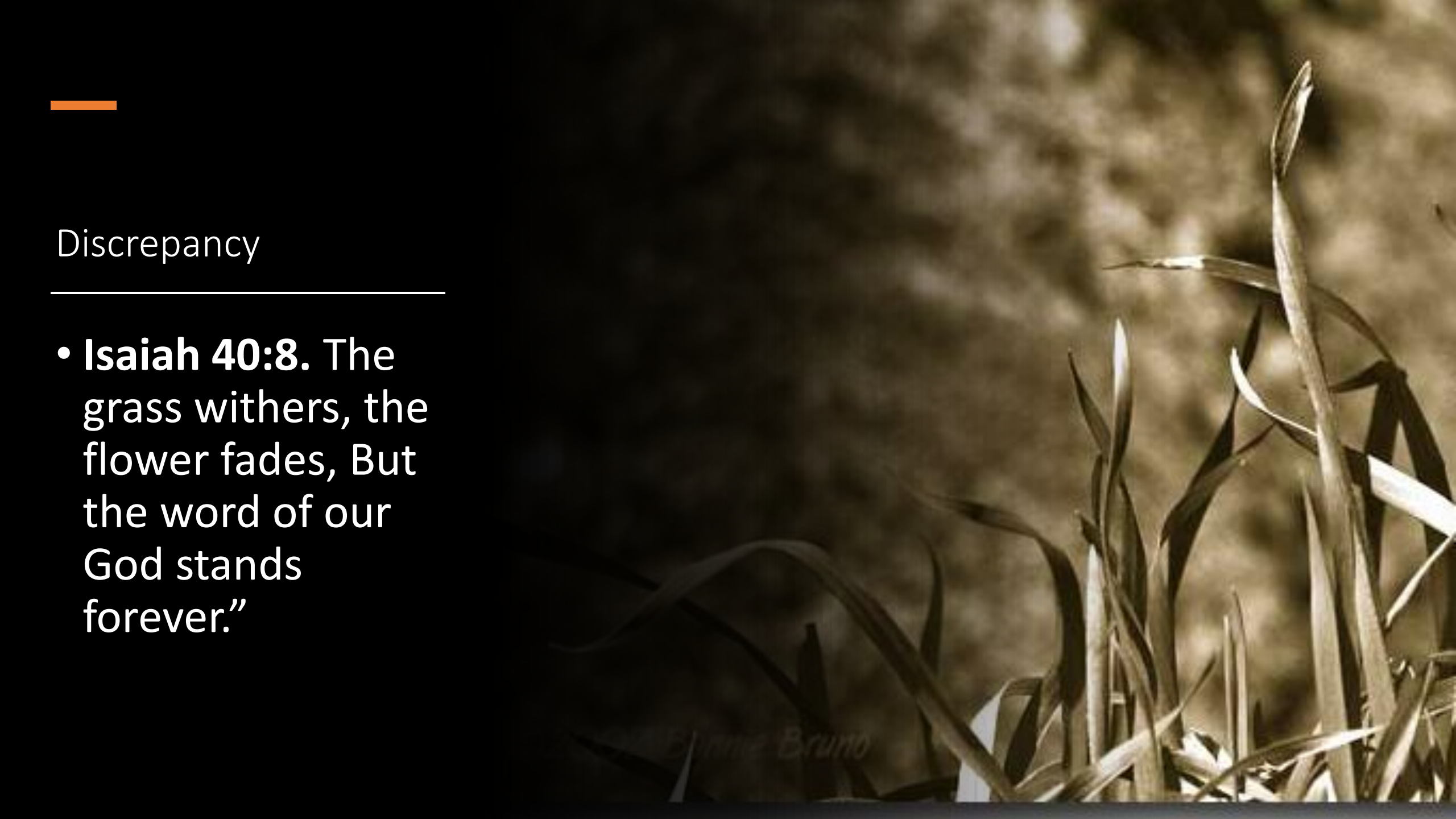




Discrepancy

- **Isaiah 40:8.** The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”

Ernie Bruno

A close-up, low-angle shot of tall grass, possibly corn, with a watermark 'Ernie Bruno' visible in the lower right quadrant. The background is a soft, out-of-focus field of similar vegetation under warm, golden light.



Balance

- **Job 31:24-25, 28.** “If I have made gold my hope, Or said to fine gold, ‘You are my confidence’; If I have rejoiced because my wealth was great, And because my hand had gained much; ... This also would be an iniquity deserving of judgment, For I would have denied God who is above.

You can't love both

- **Luke 16:13.** “No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”





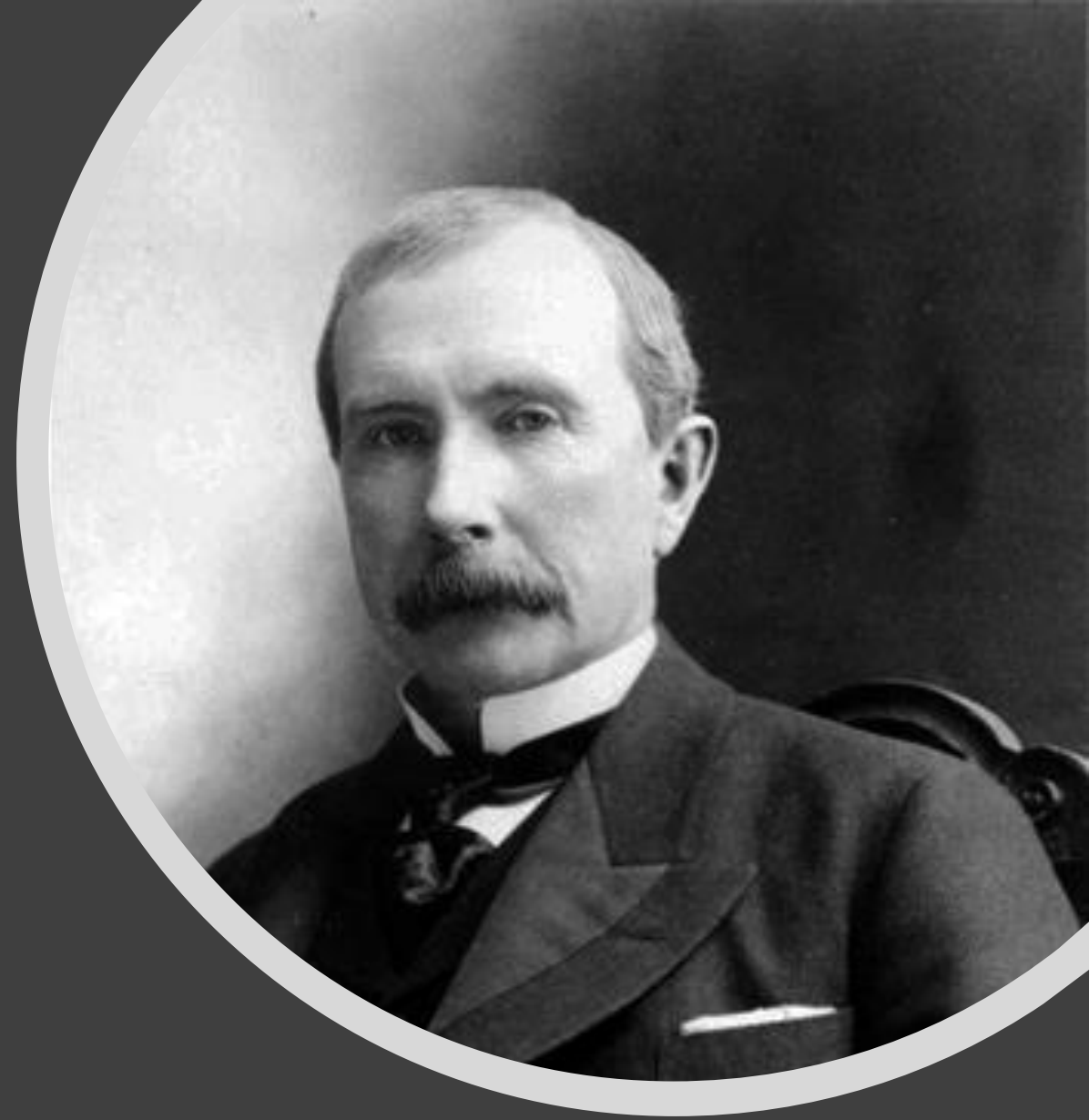
Signs of materialism

(1) Blind to the
needs of others



(2) Insatiable desire for more

- **John D. Rockefeller.** “How much is enough? More than I presently have.”
- Collecting money becomes a hobby and a goal



(3) Not being able to let go of wealth

- **Luke 18:22-23.** He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.
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(4) Constantly comparing with others

- **Exodus 20:17.** “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.”
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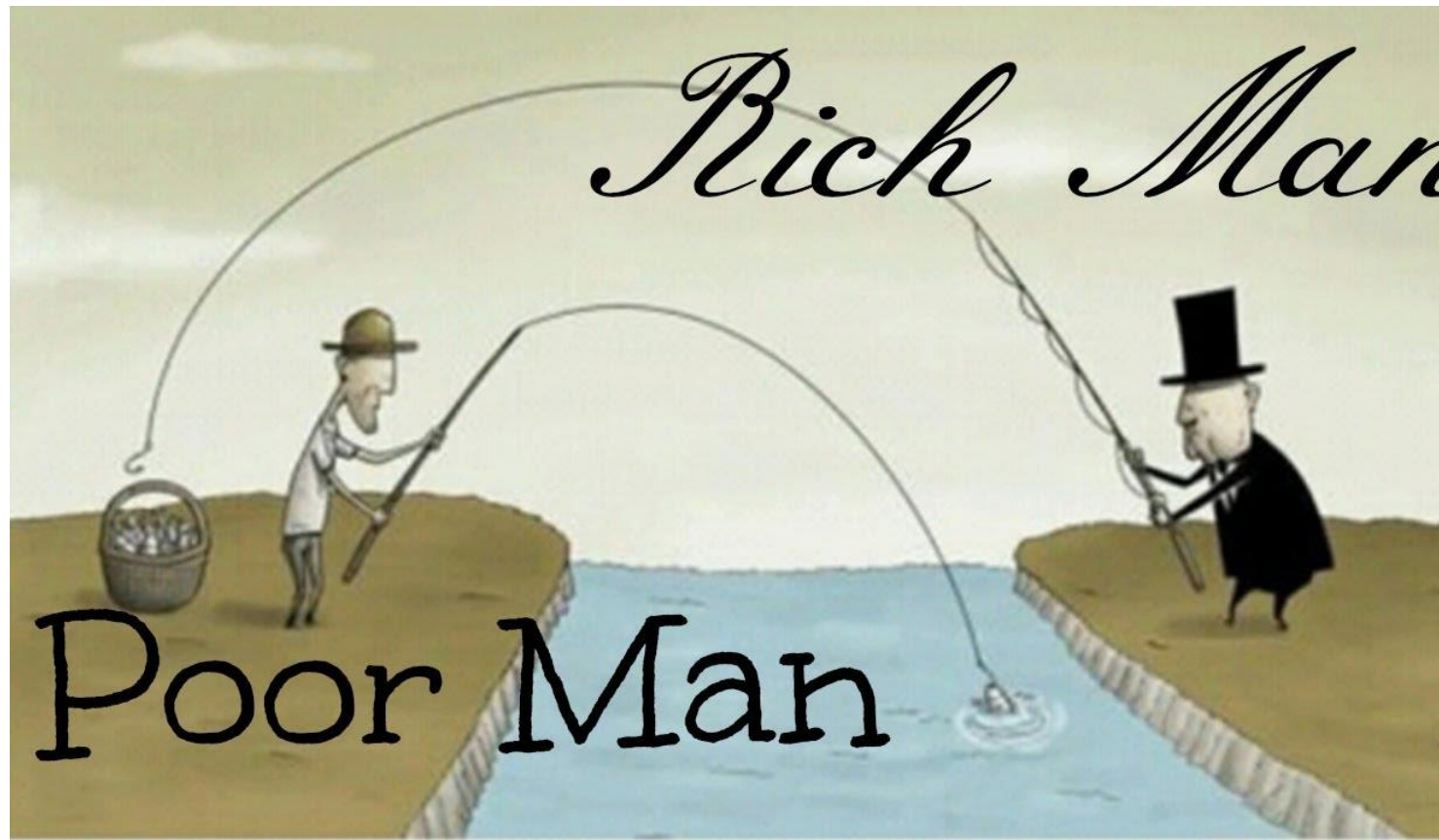
(5) Showing off

- **Jeremiah 9:23.** Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches;”

(6) How we treat the poor

- **James 2:2-4.** For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, “You sit here in a good place,” and say to the poor man, “You stand there,” or, “Sit here at my footstool,” have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?





(7) Exploiting Others to
Maintain Our Wealth

- **James 5:1-6.** Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you! Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. ...Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

(8) Willingness to disobey
God to obtain more

- **Proverbs 28:6.** Better is the poor who walks in his integrity Than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich.



What to Do?

- **James 1:11.** For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.

