



**Journey:
Free from the Love of Money**

Money is not what it appears

- Money has no intrinsic value
- Money is on loan
- Money is a “promise”

Money vs. Love of Money

1 Timothy 3:2-3

An overseer, then, must be...free from the love of money.

- **Not about categories of “rich” or “poor”**
- **The caution of Scripture is not about us possessing riches. It’s about riches possessing us.**

Lover of God or Lover of Money?

- God's relationship with Israel

Numbers 25

“...the people began to play the harlot with the daughters of Moab. For they invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. So Israel joined themselves to Baal of Peor, and the Lord was angry against Israel.”

Lover of God or Lover of Money?

- God's relationship with Israel

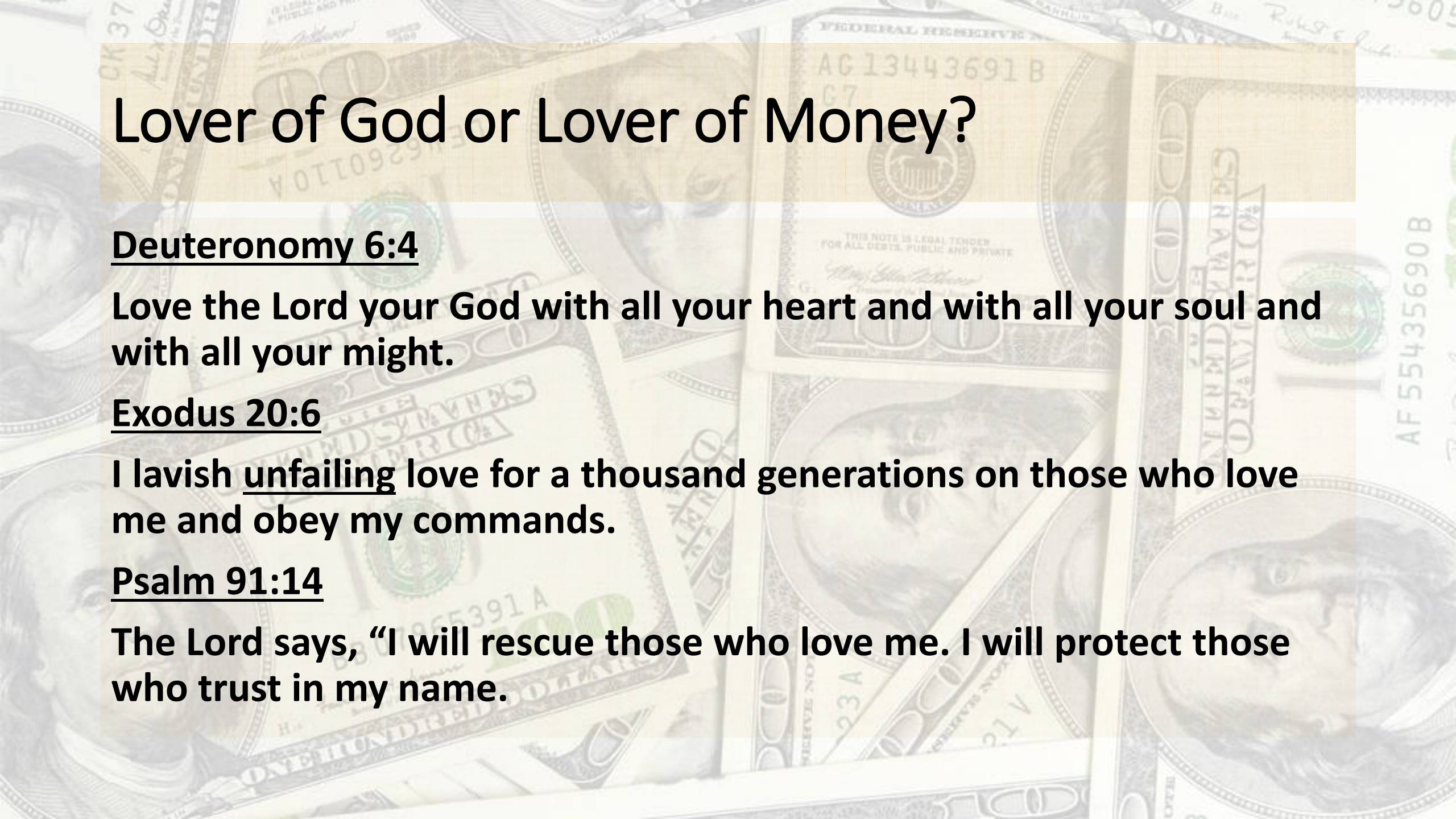
Jeremiah 3

God says, "Have you seen what faithless Israel did? She went up on every high hill and under every green tree, and she was a harlot there. I thought, 'After she has done all these things she will return to Me'; but she did not return..."

Lover of God or Lover of Money?

Matthew 6

19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; 21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



Lover of God or Lover of Money?

Deuteronomy 6:4

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Exodus 20:6

I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.

Psalms 91:14

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name."

Lover of God or Lover of Money?

Matthew 10:37

“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”

Genesis 2

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”

Lover of God or Lover of Money?

John 14:21+23

“He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.”

“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.”

John 15:9

“Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.

John 17:25-26

“O righteous Father... I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

Lover of God or Lover of Money?

Lovers of Money:

James 4:4

...Adulteresses...a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God

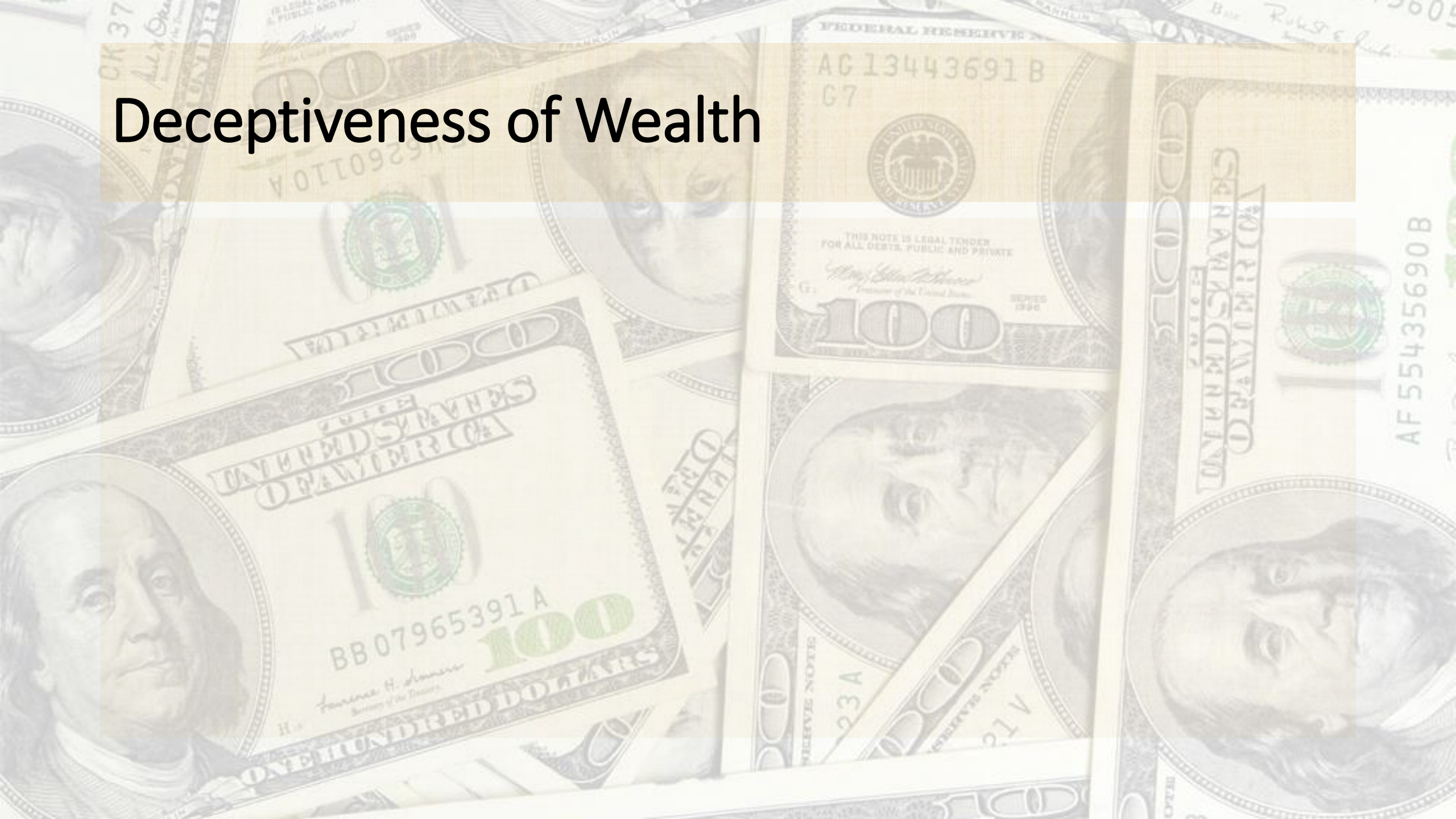
Luke 16:14

Pharisees, who were lovers of money

2 Timothy 3:1-4

...lovers of self, lovers of money...lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God...

Deceptiveness of Wealth

The image features a background of several US one hundred dollar bills, including the portrait of Benjamin Franklin. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the bills, containing the text "Deceptiveness of Wealth". The bills are slightly out of focus and layered, creating a sense of depth and abundance.

Deceptiveness of Wealth

Matthew 6

25 “For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? 27 And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? 28 And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, 29 yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these...

Deceptiveness of Wealth

Matthew 6

...30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! 31 Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' 32 For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Take Comfort...

Psalm 33:11

The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

Proverbs 16:3

Commit your works to the Lord
And your plans will be established.

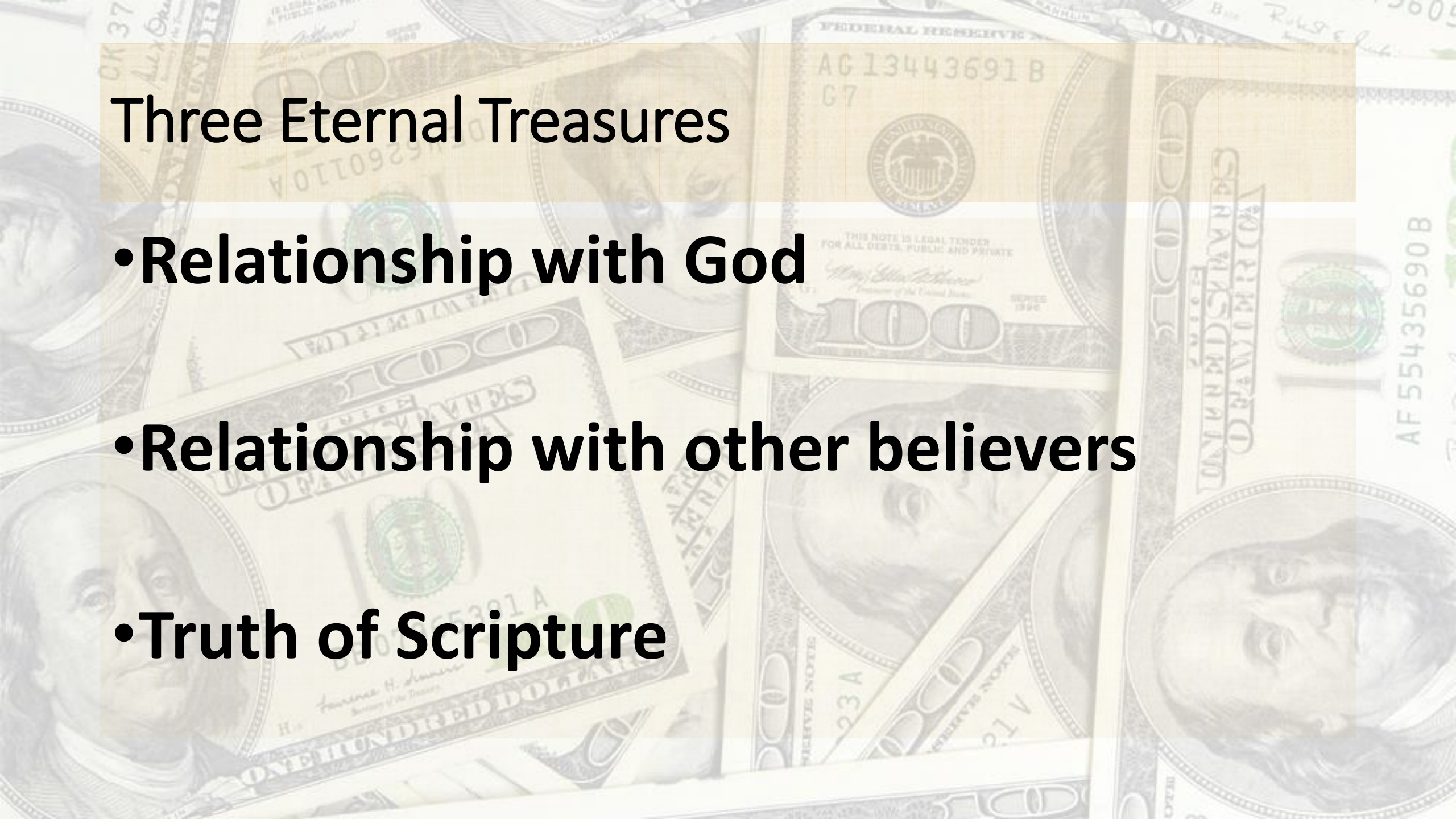
Psalm 37:4

Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart.

Take Comfort...

Isaiah 25:1

**O Lord, You are my God;
I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name;
For You have worked wonders,
Plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.**



Three Eternal Treasures

- **Relationship with God**
- **Relationship with other believers**
- **Truth of Scripture**

Questions to Consider:

- How much time do I spend on money-related matters in a week?
- How much time do I spend talking about money?
- How much time do I spend talking with Jesus?
- Do I see tithing more as an opportunity or a duty?
- When I think of financial matters, does it produce thankfulness?
Stress?
- Do I have worry about the future –providing for myself and family?
- Do I believe *I am* the provider for myself, and family?

Questions to Consider:

- **Am I longing more for the return of Christ or for my mortgage to be paid off?**
 - How often do I anticipate/think of Jesus' return?
 - How often do I think about my mortgage payoff/balance/interest rate?
- **What excites me more, the prospect of doubling my retirement account funds, or of witnessing someone's salvation?**
- **Am I more excited when one of my children draws near to God, or when they spend money wisely?**
- **When do I get upset concerning money? What does that say about my trust in God?**
- **Which am I more consistent with, checking my accounts, or checking in with someone I care about?**