

Week 4--Ephesus: Investing in the Eternal

Paul's Background as an Achiever

Tarsus: was distinguished for its wealth and for its schools of learning, rivaling Athens and Alexandria. It was located 12 miles north of the Mediterranean Sea and was near the important mountain pass on the trade routes.

Education: Paul would have been educated in the home of his devote Jewish father, who was training Saul to be a rabbi. At the age of six he would have gone to the synagogue school. His superior knowledge and quick mind earned him the distinguished honor of studying under Rabbi Gamaliel in Jerusalem. Paul was a member of the Pharasaic party.

Passion: Paul was passionate about preserving his Jewish traditions and was willing to try to eliminate any he saw as threatening Jewish customs. He had the focus and determination of an athlete.

Paul's Message to the Rich/Poor Ephesians

Ephesians 6 & I Timothy 6

For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

Paul wasn't talking about an amount of money.

The issue was

Who love
How do I live?

Who
What do I value?

Fall into
•temptation.
•a snare.
•many foolish desires.
•many harmful desires.
Plunge into ruin and destruction.

=Those who want to get rich.

What was the danger and snare?

- To think that wealth was an indication of their true success and importance.
- To think that security was having the right amount of money saved up.
- To use their resources for themselves instead of generously giving them for others.
- To put their resources into things that had no eternal value.

A root of all kinds of evil

=love of money.

Wandered away from the faith (cr II Tim. 4:10 Demas)
Pierced themselves with many griefs.

=some who long for money.

Paul's Example to Follow: Investing in the Eternal

The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. II Tim. 2:2



Paul to Timothy



Timothy to reliable men



Reliable men who will teach others also



Who has trained you in your spiritual life?



YOU



Who is your spiritual child/ren?

