

Rich Felix Had No Leisure to Hear Poor Paul

by Thomas Brooks

Thomas Brooks warns against the spiritual dangers of pursuing wealth, using the example of Felix who neglected his soul for riches.

Scripture: Proverbs 23:4

Topics: "The Pursuit of God", "Wealth vs. Spirituality"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes the futility of pursuing wealth at the expense of spiritual well-being, illustrating how the pursuit of riches can lead to a heart that is distant from God. He reflects on the biblical account of Felix, who, consumed by his desire for status and wealth, neglected the opportunity to hear Paul preach about righteousness and judgment. Brooks warns that those who are determined to be rich often overlook divine matters, leading to spiritual barrenness and a lack of true fulfillment. The sermon serves as a reminder that earthly riches are fleeting and can distract us from eternal truths.

Transcript

"Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle." Proverbs 23:4-5

The only thing certain about riches--is that they are uncertain.

Oh the deadness, the barrenness, the listlessness, the heartlessness to anything that is divine and heavenly-- which always attends such professors who are resolved to be rich, or great, or somebody in the world! Oh the time, the thoughts, the strength, the spirits that these

men spend upon the world--while their souls lie a-bleeding,
and eternity is hastening upon them! Men who are highly
and fully resolved to be rich--will certainly forget God,
undervalue Christ, grieve the Spirit, slight ordinances,
and neglect such gracious opportunities as might make
them happy forever. Rich Felix had no leisure to
hear poor Paul, though the hearing of a sermon
might have saved his soul. "As Paul discoursed on
righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come,
Felix was afraid and said--That's enough for now! You
may leave. When I find it convenient, I will send for
you." Acts 24:24-25

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