

## Countering Greed

**Psalm 17:12-Like as a lion that is greedy of his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.** (KJV)

Greed has deep historical roots and is not unique to today's present society. God's Holy Church stands counter to greed and advocates sharing with others. Wise believers heed the Church's teachings and strive to be sincerely generous. The believer's soul is at peace when generosity is readily practiced in daily life. Combating greed requires wisdom of the mind that comes only from the Lord God. God's Holy Church provides the wisdom necessary to counter the acts of greed.

**Proverbs 21:26-He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.** (KJV)

The Church teaches the perils of greed and ignoring the needs of the poor nearby. Recognizing the needs of others and responding to those needs are acts of love. The Lord's unlimited love for each person merits believers' constant consideration. Greed endangers the soul of the person hoarding wealth and depriving the needy. Active repentance can take the form of generosity with the poor and needy. The Lord knows the contents of the believer's heart in personal handling of wealth.

**Isaiah 56:11-Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter.** (KJV)

Greed is to be addressed directly in each generation as a confession of faith. Greed is to be combatted in societal undertakings and within personal relations. A family member or co-worker can be greedy in personal desires and actions. The Church serves as a monitor and guide for believers to assess relationships. The workplace challenges believers to combat greed when formulating goals. Believers have a responsibility to stand firmly against actions that facilitate greed.

**Ezekiel 22:12-In thee have they taken gifts to shed blood; thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbours by extortion, and hast forgotten me, saith the Lord GOD.** (KJV)

Believers do well to take action against the presence and circumstances of greed. The Holy Prophets speak words of wisdom to strengthen believers against greed. Looking to the Holy Prophets for wisdom translates into meritorious actions. Heeding the Holy Prophets enables attentive believers to seek God's Kingdom. Temptations of greed and other perils to the soul arise throughout daily life. The Lord God provides the narrow path to the Kingdom to avoid perils to the soul.

Wednesday of the Week of the Myrrhbearers. Holy Apostles of Jason and Sosipater. April 28/May 11, 2022. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.

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