

**SERIES: DISCOVERING THE BLESSINGS AND FAVOR OF GOD**  
*PART III: Overcoming the Spirit of Mammon – Pastor Alton Trimble*  
**Sunday, July 15, 2018**

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*Continued...*

II Corinthians 8:7 (NLT)

*Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.*

- 1. John Milton’s poem, “Paradise Lost.”**
- 2. Jesus references mammon a couple of times.**

Matthew 6:24 (NKJV)

*No one 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.*

- a. It is possible to serve mammon and not God.
  - b. It is impossible to serve mammon and God.
  - c. Mammon is an Aramaic word that means “riches.”
  - d. Money has a spirit on it.
- 3. Mammon’s Government.**
- a. Fear related to money is a marker of the influence of the spirit of mammon.

Matthew 6:24 (NKJV)

*No one 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.*

- b. The spirit of mammon wants to govern.
    - It is thirsty for servants.
    - It wants to be worshipped.
    - It promises big and delivers nothing.
    - It wants to take the place of God; sound familiar?
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- c. What mammon promises only God can deliver.

Isaiah 55:8 (NKJV)

*“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD.*

Revelation 13:17 (NKJV)

*...and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*

- d. Money and mammon are not synonymous

I Timothy 6:10 (NKJV)

*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.*

- e. The spirit of mammon is an artful liar.

**4. The real issue that Jesus lifts up in the discussion of mammon is our perspective on how we add value to our lives and the lives of those around us.**

- a. Luke 16:9-13 flushes that out further:

Luke 16:9-13 (NKJV)

*“And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home. <sup>10</sup> He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. <sup>11</sup> Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in what is another man’s, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> “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.”*

- b. You can build an eternal treasure.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NKJV)

*“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

Luke 16:10 (NKJV)

*He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also unjust also in much.*

- c. So it is not how much we have that matters, it is whose it is.

Luke 16:11-12 (NKJV)

*Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own?*

**5. The company mammon keeps...**

Luke 11:26 (NKJV)

*Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first.*

- a. The Spirit of poverty.
- b. The Spirit of pride.
- c. Both of these spirits have the same goal of getting us to focus on stuff and not on God.

**6. Critique yourself.**

- a. What condition is your heart in?
- b. Looking to people to meet your needs will always leave you disappointed.
- c. How would you respond to the following questions?
- d. Watch out for the comparison trap.

Deuteronomy 8:18 (NKJV)

*And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.*