

*"For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them." Proverbs 1:32*

Turning away is a choice. It is a conscious effort to look in another direction. The rich young ruler turned away from Christ to go back to his wealth, because he deemed it more dependable than faith. The one thing that men who amass wealth come to realize, sooner or later, is that you can't take it with you. They spend billions researching ways to prolong life, so that they might enjoy their possessions awhile



longer. In the end Death, claims us all, and this transient awareness is exchanged for the permanent reality of eternity. The libraries are full of the stories of men who scrabble and claw their way to amass wealth, only to have it stolen, or to find that their allotted time has been wasted. Eternal life is more valuable than the wealth of the entire world! What can a man give in exchange for his soul? Faith is the currency of Heaven. Gold is worthless by comparison. Gold is the paving material of Heaven, but the only way to gain entrance is through faith. By grace, God extended the offer of Eternal Life through faith in His Word, but men turn away, because they want to "do something" in return so they can boast. What could a man possibly do for, or give to, God in exchange for the Life of His only begotten Son? It is ludicrous to imagine one could somehow repay God for this Sacrifice, but men still falsely believe, and foolishly pretend that it is possible. They foolishly deny the Holy Scriptures while standing in the center of God's Creation. Men garner wealth to buy power, but for all the power over other men they may have, or acquire, they cannot even control the length of their own life. They are powerless in the realm of the Almighty! They are less than peasants. They are criminals doomed to eternal punishment with no hope of escape. For all the wealth a man may possess, there is no caste system in the graveyard. You cannot buy your way out of the casket. Death is the doorway to Eternity. You step through into Heaven, or you step through into Hell. You predetermine your own destiny by the choice you make in life. You can believe God and trust His Word, or you can turn away.

*"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 16:25*