

I. Read Luke 16:14-15

- A. In verse 14, the Pharisees are described as “lovers of money.” Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and contrast the Pharisees’ priorities with the words of the Apostle Paul.
- B. Read James 4:3-5 and explain what it means to be a “friend of the world.”
- C. How does the James passage apply to the Pharisees?
- D. According to 1 Timothy 6:10, is money or the possession of money evil in itself?
- E. In Luke 16:15, Jesus makes a clear distinction between being justified in God’s eyes and being seen as just by men. How can the two things be different?
- F. Read Matthew 16:21-23 and discuss how what men look upon as being a good thing may be contrary to the will of God. Is there a difference between man’s idea of success and God’s idea of success?
- G. How do we know if we are doing what God wants us to do? (Read Psalm 119:1-2, 9-16, 105.)
- H. When reading about the hypocrisy and greed of the Pharisees, what should we always remember that will serve as a warning to us? (Hint: They were knowledgeable in the Old Testament Scriptures and committed to the Jewish religious system.)
- I. In the final analysis, there is only one way of being absolutely justified before a perfect, holy, and just God. What is it? (Read Romans 5:8-11.)