



- I. **Why is there lack in the world?**
- II. **Why is there lack even amongst believers?**
- III. **How to overcome the fear of lack and lack itself?**



I. Why is there lack in the world?

Because of the **Fallen-ness** of Man.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ...

John 16:33b In the world you will have tribulation;
but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.



Because of the **Fallen-ness** of Man.

2 Timothy 3:1-4

1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be **lovers of themselves**, **lovers of money**, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 **unloving**, **unforgiving**, slanderers, without self-control, **brutal**, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God** ...



Because of the **Fallen-ness** of Man.

Selfishness - Greed and Covetousness

- ❖ Unequal Distribution
- ❖ Wastage
- ❖ Poverty Trap - Cycle
- ❖ Corrupt Governments / Economic Systems

Well-educated, well-paid, but mired in debt

PUBLISHED ON APR 8, 2015 7:38 AM



**Why is there lack
even amongst
believers?**

II. Why is there lack even amongst believers?

1. Ignorance of the **Word** of God re Laws of Provision.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.



1. Ignorance of the **Word** of God re Laws of Provision.

Isaiah 5:13 Therefore my people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge; their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.



2. Failure to tithe.

Proverbs 3:9-10

9 Honour the Lord with your possessions, and with the **firstfruits** of all your increase;

10 SO your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

2. Failure to tithe.

Malachi 3:8-9

8 “Will a man **rob God**? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ **In tithes and offerings**. **9** You are cursed with a curse, For you have **robbed Me**, even this whole nation.





3. Laziness - Lack of Diligence and Discipline.

Proverbs 10:4 He who has a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

3. Laziness - Lack of Diligence and Discipline.

Proverbs 6:10-11

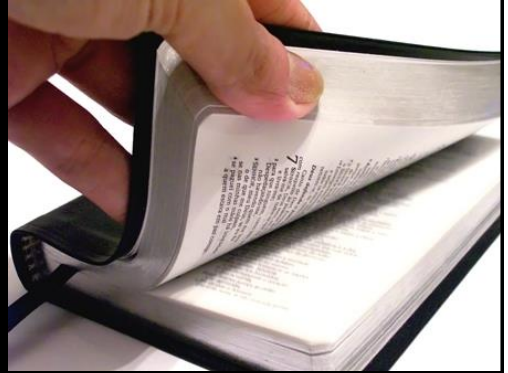
10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep—11 so shall your

poverty come on you like a prowler, and your need like an armed man.



3. Laziness - Lack of Diligence and Discipline.

Proverbs 13:18 Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, but he who regards a rebuke will be honoured.



3. Laziness - Lack of Diligence and Discipline.

Proverbs 21:17 He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.



4. **Greed** and **Covetousness** leading to over-spending and financial failures.

A. Compromising with **evil**

Proverbs 13:11a **Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished.**



4. **Greed** and **Covetousness** leading to over-spending and financial failures.

A. Compromising with **evil**.

2 Corinthians 6:14

Do not be **unequally yoked** together with unbelievers.

For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness?

And what communion has light with darkness?

Example of **Lot**



4. **Greed** and **Covetousness** leading to over-spending and financial failures.

B. Yielding to **covetousness**

Joshua 6:18 And you, **by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed** when you take of the accursed things, and **make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.**

Example of **Achan**



4. **Greed** and **Covetousness** leading to over-spending and financial failures.

C. Failures, Mistakes and Errors in **Judgment**

1 Timothy 6:10 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**.



4. **Greed** and **Covetousness** leading to over-spending and financial failures.

C. Failures, Mistakes and Errors in **Judgment**



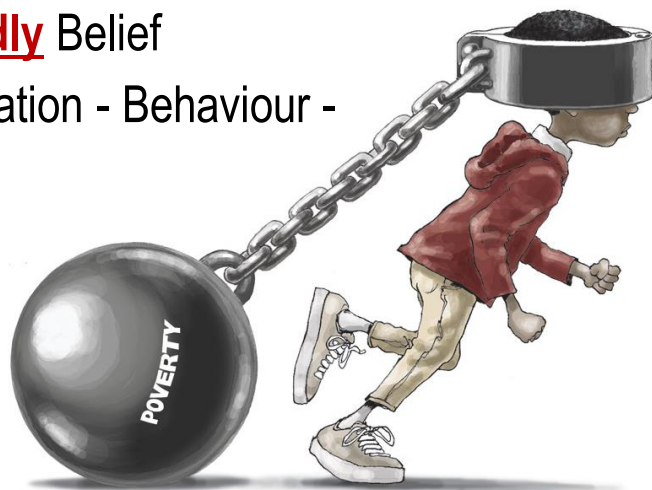
Proverbs 28:22

A man with an evil eye hastens after riches, and does not consider that **poverty will come upon him**.

5. Having a Spirit of **Poverty**.

A. Cycle of **Ungodly** Belief

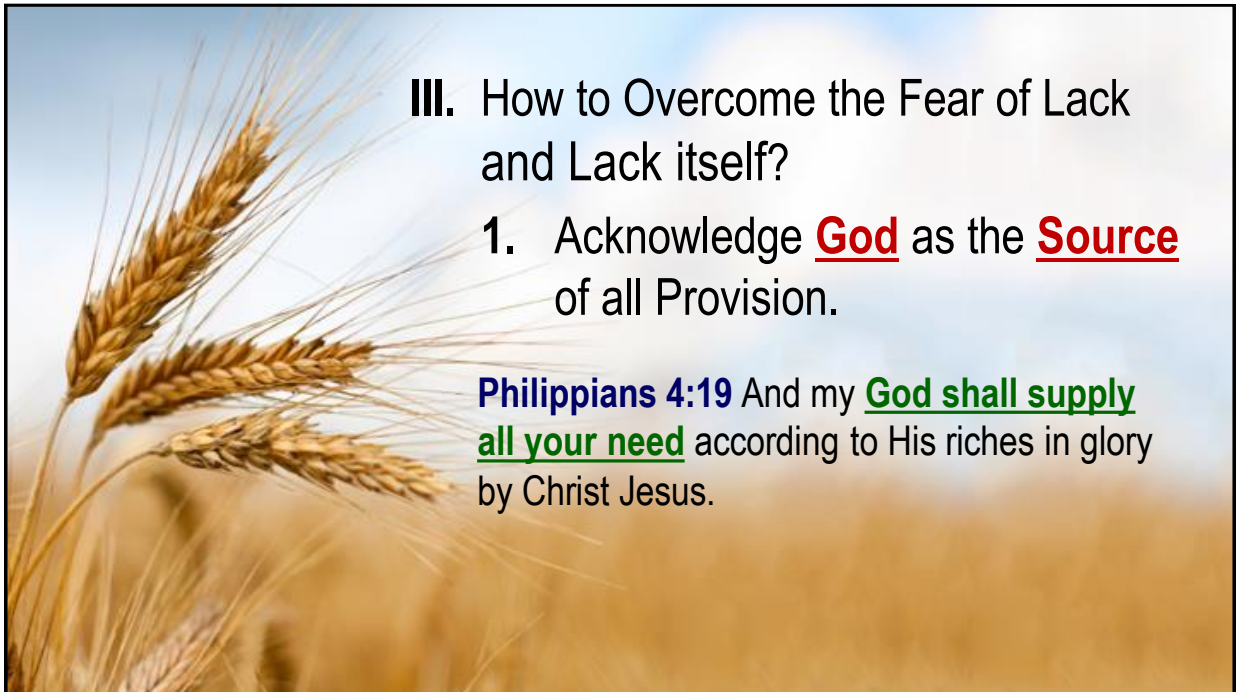
B. **Belief** - Expectation - Behaviour - **Experience**

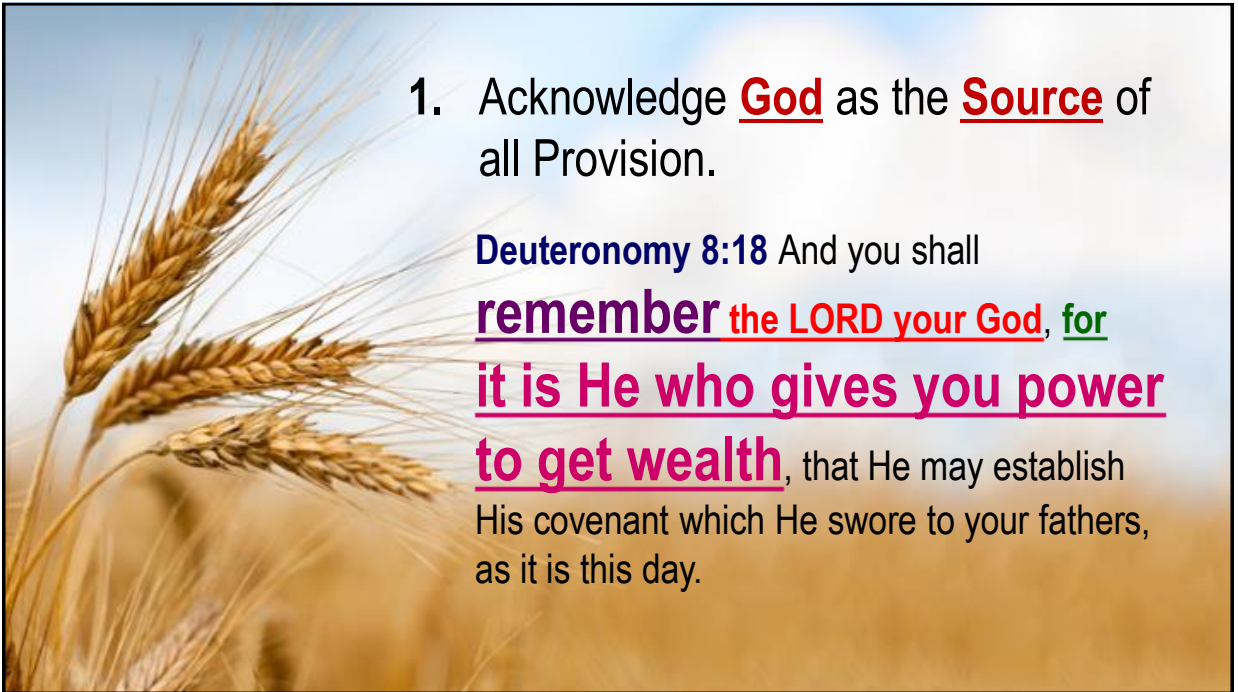




Contrast Orphan Spirit and Spirit of Sonship - Jack Frost


Orphan Spirit		Spirit of Sonship
God=Taskmaster	Image of God	God=Loving Father
Independent	Dependency	Inter-dependence
Insecure	Security	Rest in Grace of God
Addicted and Strife	Need for Approval	Totally Accepted
Performance	Motivation	Gratitude
Competitive	Relationship	Honour





1. Acknowledge **God** as the **Source** of all Provision.

Deuteronomy 8:18 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.



2. **Tithe** to the Lord from all your sources of income and gains.

Proverbs 3:9-10
9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the **firstfruits of all your increase;**
10 So your barns will be **filled with plenty**, and your vats will **overflow with new wine.**



Malachi 3:10-11

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this, “Says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. **11** “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” Says the Lord of hosts ...

3. Know and improve on the Work of Your Hands that produces income.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

11 that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, **12** that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.



3. Know and **improve** on the **Work of Your Hands** that produces income.

Proverbs 22:29 Do you see **a man who excels in his work**? **He will stand before kings**; He will not stand before unknown men.



4. Guard **Greed** and **Covetousness** in our hearts.
A. The **Love** of money is a root of all kinds of **evil**.

1 Timothy 6:10 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.



4. Guard **Greed** and **Covetousness** in our hearts.

A. The **Love** of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

1 Timothy 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, **nor to trust in uncertain riches** but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.



4. Guard **Greed** and **Covetousness** in our hearts.

B. The love of money is **Covetousness** and **Covetousness** is idolatry.

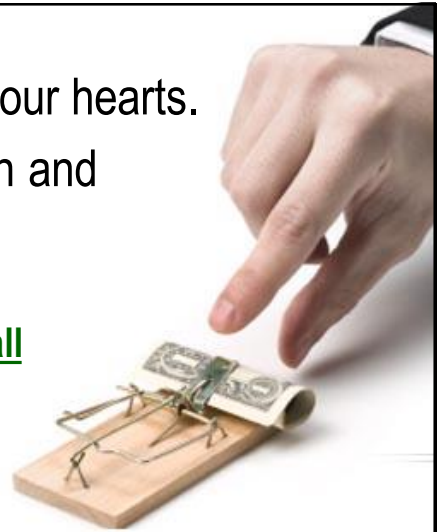
Colossians 3:5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness**, **which is idolatry**.



4. Guard **Greed** and **Covetousness** in our hearts.

C. The love of money is a temptation and **snare** leading to **destruction**.

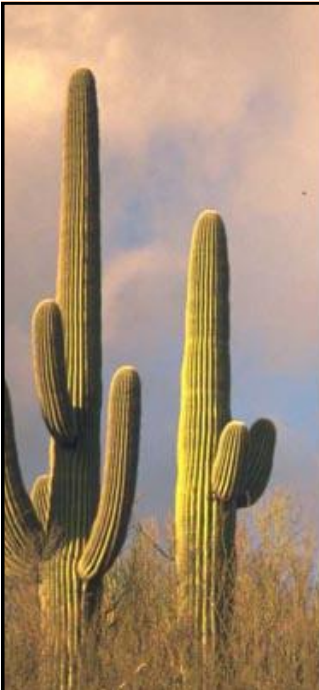
1 Timothy 6:9 But **those who desire to be rich fall into temptation** and a **snare**, and into many **foolish and harmful lusts** which **drown men in destruction** and perdition.



4. Guard **Greed** and **Covetousness** in our hearts.

D. The love of money will **choke** the seed of God's Word in your life.

Matthew 13:22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the **deceitfulness of riches choke the word**, and he becomes unfruitful.



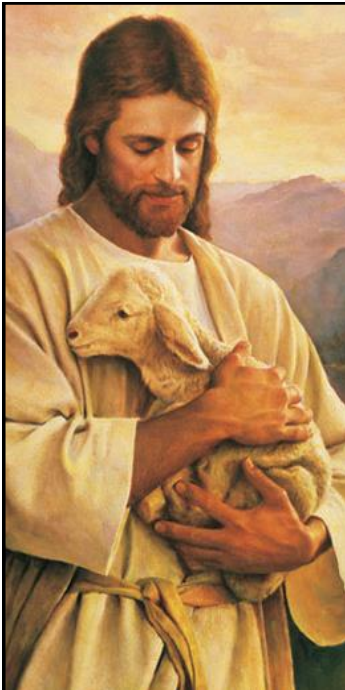
4. Guard **Greed** and **Covetousness** in our hearts.

E. The love of money will **wear** you out.

Proverbs 23:4-5 (NIV)

4 **Do not wear yourself out to get rich**; do not trust your own cleverness.

5 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.



5. Be rooted and established in the **Father's Love**.

1 John 2:15-16

15 **Do not love the world or the things in the world.**

If anyone loves the world, the **love of the Father** is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

SUMMARY

- I. **Why is there lack in the world?**
- II. **Why is there lack even amongst believers?**
- III. **How to overcome the fear of lack and lack itself?**

Bottom-Line

**The Story of Elijah and
the Widow of Zarephath**



Bottom-Line: The Story of Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath

1 Kings 17:13-16 (NIV)

13 Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. **14** For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.’” **15** She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. **16** For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

Bottom-Line

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him,
 for he who comes to God must believe that He is,
 and that He is a rewarder of those
who diligently seek Him.