Easter reminds us why Jesus conquered the grave.

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15 (NIV)

The "Seven Deadly Sins"

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

"Greed, for lack of a better word, is good. Greed is right. Greed works. Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the essence of the evolutionary spirit. Greed, in all of its forms; greed for life, for money, for love, knowledge has marked the upward surge of mankind and greed, you mark my words, will not only save Taldar Paper, but that other malfunctioning corporation called the U.S.A."

- Gordon Gekko, from the movie Wall Street

Paul's words of wisdom to a young man named Timothy.

A devout life does bring wealth, but it's the rich simplicity of being yourself before God. Since we entered the world penniless and will leave it penniless, if we have bread on the table and shoes on our feet, that's enough. But if it's only money these leaders are after, they'll self-destruct in no time. Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (Mes)

What is greed?

"Greed is an excessive love or desire for money or any possession money can buy."

-- Thomas Aquinas

Biblical example:

    The story of Abraham and his cousin, Lot. (Genesis 13 & 14)

    Question: Why did Lot resist God's rescue plan?
    Answer: Because it meant having to leave his treasures behind.

Our treasures not only have the power to _____ us, but to _____ us.

Greed blinds you _____.

> One sure sign that you may be greedy and not know it is if you are thinking, "I don't have a problem with greed."

Biblical example:

    The story of God providing manna and quail to the Israelites in the Wilderness. (Exodus 16)

Greed blinds you to God's _____ and destroys your capacity to trust God.

Biblical example:

    Genesis tells us that our life began in a garden. We had everything we needed. God said that everything in the garden is yours… everything except the tree in the middle. That tree belongs to me. You will honor and respect me, if you respect what is mine.

But in the garden, _____.