

No. 5 **Avoid Sowing to the Flesh (Symposium)** —Invest in a Secure Future (Local elder)

Note to speaker:

This is the fourth talk of a four-part symposium. Warmly reason with the audience, encouraging them to look to Jehovah, not to material possessions, for a secure future. (See the *Ministry School* book, pages 202-204.) This talk includes an interview

REQUIREMENTS FOR A SECURE FUTURE (2 min.)

To continue living, we need adequate food, clothing, and shelter

But to have a *secure* future, we need something more **[Read Matthew 5:3]**

When we fill our “spiritual need” by worshipping Jehovah, we can look forward to a future of lasting security
—everlasting life under God’s Kingdom

How can we invest in a future that is truly secure?

WHERE CAN WE FIND TRUE SECURITY? (7 min.)

Jesus recommended an investment more valuable than earthly treasures **[Read Matthew 6:19, 20]**

Riches have “deceptive power”; having them can fool us into believing that we are secure (Mt 13:22)

Our prospects for a secure future could be offset by unanticipated events

Health problems, an accident, or an economic setback could ruin even the best-laid plans (Ec 9:11)

While money can serve as a protection, it is only temporary (Pr 18:11; Ec 7:12)

Sowing with a view to the flesh does not bring lasting security (1Ti 6:17)

How can true security be achieved? **[Read 1 Timothy 6:18, 19]**

“The real life” is everlasting life, either in heaven for the anointed or on the earth for Jesus’ other sheep

God’s Kingdom is the only source of true security because it “will never be destroyed” (Da 2:44)

We do well to ask ourselves, ‘In what do I place my hope for future security?’

INTERVIEW (2 min.)

[Interview a brother or a sister who simplified his or her life in order to serve Jehovah more fully. In the past, the person seemed to be active but was in reality burdened with needless material pursuits. How was the person able to focus more on spiritual matters? What goals has the person reached?]

TRUE SECURITY CAN BE YOURS (3 min.)

In view of the urgency of our times, we should have as full a share as possible in Jehovah’s work

What do our choices regarding employment reveal about us? Is our outlook fleshly or spiritual?

Parents have a responsibility to care for their family’s material needs but should do so in a balanced way
(1Ti 5:8; w14 4/15 23-24 ¶9)

Those who sow with a view to the spirit look to Jehovah as their source of security (Mt 6:33)

Because they seek first God’s Kingdom and “keep on the watch,” they will be “taken along” into God’s new world (Mt 24:40-42)

Review question: What is sowing with a view to the flesh, and how can we avoid it?

Answer: Galatians 6:8; sowing with a view to the flesh means letting oneself be led by sinful human desires. To avoid this sin, we must be balanced as to social media, choose wholesome entertainment, fight the spirit of envy, and trust in Jehovah for a secure future

(Speaker does not need to read or comment on every cited text)