Practical Exercise

Consider these signs of mammon's that might be at work in your life. Give each area a score: 0 = I do not recognize this at all 10 = I this is really me.

Worry and anxiety over money – it is never far from one's thinking, causes health issues like ulcers
Ongoing money mismanagement – making continuously poor choices and decisions on the use of money
Consistent financial lack – an ongoing way of life; can be generational in nature
A fear of lack – displayed by hoarding or extreme frugality
"I can't afford it mentality" – foremost thought when considering a purchase; unable to move forward with a purchase – causes one to be immobilized
Impulse buying – see something and need to buy it without further thought of consideration of payment plan; immediate gratification is paramount
Materialism – devotion to material wealth and possessions at the expense of one's spirituality; excessive comfort orientation
Stinginess – tight fistedness with finances; the inability to give or spend money
Greed – an overwhelming desire to have more of something than is actually needed; one engages in financial or economic gluttony – consuming more than is needed
Discontentment – never at peace, always feeling unsettled, irritated or annoyed in relation to finances
Bondage to debt – an ongoing pattern - sometimes over many years; can be inherited and passed down to subsequent generations
Exaggerated emphasis on money and overestimate of its true power – perceives money being the end all; all decisions centre around this aspect
Coveting – a strong desire to possess something that belongs to someone else
Selfishness – seek to serve and please only themselves with their finances rather than seeking the good of others

Anxiety over unmet needs – believing that money will satisfy these areas
Fear of the future – intense anxiety over what will happen in the future, believing money will help shape one's destiny and give one a sense of peace and well-being
Entitlement – the mindset that one has a right to a certain standard or style of living; others like the government should provide or help in time of crisis; believes they are entitled to the money and possessions one has
Apathetic towards the poor, widow, sick, needy and oppressed – has no heart for these individuals, if assists, does so with a condescending and legalistic manner

As a final consideration, please give thought to:

Describe what expectations you have held as a result of believing in mammon that have been false.