



MESSAGE/SERIES:

Series: Healthy Church

Message: “Treasures in Heaven: A Renewed Season of Giving”

DATE: September 5, 2021

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

Matthew 6:19-24, Matthew 6:25-34, Luke 12:15-21, 1 Timothy 6:17, 1 Timothy 6:9-10, 1 Timothy 5:8, Hebrews 13:5-6, Luke 10:41-42, Ecclesiastes 7:14, 12:1, Amos 3:6

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[Matthew 6:19-24]

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

“...Jesus’ disciples are not simply to *refrain* from the *pursuit* of temporal things as their primary goal in order to differentiate themselves from pagans.

Instead, they are to *replace* such pursuits with goals of far greater significance...”

-D A Carson

TERMS & BACKGROUND:

[SERMON ON THE MOUNT- *Matthew 5:1-7:29*] This passage is among the teachings found in the greater sermon on the mount. The sermon on the mount is the very first discourse or message given by Jesus during His public ministry. This is the first message of Jesus to the crowds in Matthew as well. Jesus teaches this message from the sitting position as was common for Rabbis to do in Jesus’ day.

[AUDIENCE] The audience was most likely very poor. Concern for what they would eat or a roof over their head was at the forefront of their thought process. Jesus compares the pursuit of God’s will and His kingdom as the primary concern. He reminds them to trust God with the material concerns of today.

[THEME OF MATTHEW] “Detachment from worldly goods is the prominent theme in Matthew’s Gospel”

Barry, John D., Douglas Mangum, Derek R. Brown, Michael S. Heiser, Miles Custis, Elliot Ritzema, Matthew M. Whitehead, Michael R. Grigoni, and David Bomar. Faithlife Study Bible. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016.

[THE HEART] “Jews of the time typically perceived the heart as the seat of intelligence and will. Jesus’ teaching reflects this view: People’s choices and actions are shaped by the things they cherish most.”

John D. Barry et al., Faithlife Study Bible (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Mt 6:21.

OUTLINE:

(v19a) “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth”

- “**Do not lay up**”- greek indicates store up, gather, save up, reserve

- **Hoarding** is a great equivalency to what Jesus is speaking against (having great excess in earthly resources)
 - Hoarding is something we save up yet
 - never use
 - do not use correctly
- **“Yourselves”**- *Meaning the things you desire for yourself in this life*
 - *We want/need immediate needs met*
 - *We want/ perceive the need to grow our kingdom here*
 - Our Kingdom is our dreams
 - Our Kingdom is our families
 - Our Kingdom is our agenda
 - Our Kingdom is our fame
- **“Treasures”**- *Things that we value now*
 - *Not wrong to have treasures on earth*
 - *Wrong to store up/lay up treasures on earth*
- **Treasures “On Earth”**- *Worldly goods/material things*
 - These things have an earthly origin
 - These things have an earthly purpose
 - These things have an earthly expiration

CROSS-REFERENCES

- **Matthew 6:3-4** *“But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”*
 - The opposite of getting more and more on earth is giving away to those in need
- **Luke 12:21** ²¹ *So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”*

(Continued study...Matthew 6)

(v19b) “... where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,”

- **“Moth and rust destroy”**- *Moths and rust are speaking to the sinful state of the world and how everything breaks down and loses value and effectiveness*
 - If you have found earthly things that bring you great joy they will eventually lose their luster

- **“Thieves break in and steal”**- *Speaks to the heart of the sinful man who desires the blessings of others for their own (All hearts are deceitfully wicked)*
 - If you have been given much someone else will seek to take it from you
 - *These treasures on earth are temporary*
 - *These treasures on earth can only bring Joy for a short time*

(v20) **“but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal...”**

- **“Lay up for yourselves”**- *Store up as in investing into a safe place (example a bank)*
 - These treasures have value past this life
 - These treasures are meant for eternity
 - These treasures have bearing on your worship now and in heaven
- **“Treasures in heaven”**- *Speaks to the eternal things*
 - *Treasures that are of the kingdom of God*
 - *Things that glorify God/Christ*
- **“Where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal”**-
 - These treasures are eternal
 - These treasures never lose their effectiveness
 - These treasures cannot be taken away by man
 - These treasures will bring you joy when nothing else is good on earth as you know these treasures await you after this life

(v21) **“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”**

- **“Where your treasure is”**-
 - Where our thoughts are
 - Where the bulk of our efforts are
 - Where we have accumulated the most
 - *Actions and choices reveal what or who has your heart*
- **“There your heart will be also”**-
 - Your choices cannot go against what you most desire (dominant desires always win out)
 - *Therefore we can be assured that the doing reveals the heart every time*

(v22-23) **“²²“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!”**

- What we see as valuable will consume us
 - If we value the things of God (His word/His will)
 - *We will see and better understand the Kingdom of God*
 - If we value the things of this world more than the things of God they will consume this life (Material/sex/fame)
 - *If we cannot see the things of God we cannot understand His kingdom*
 - *If we cannot see the Kingdom of God we cannot please God*
 - *If we cannot see His Kingdom then the desires for the world only grow bigger and stronger within us*

(v24) **“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”**

- **“No one can serve two masters”**- Two bosses/two giving orders
 - *The Lord gives the orders or you give the orders*
 - *The Lord directs your steps (As King of Kings) or Satan directs your steps (As your Lord though not Lord)*
- **“We cannot serve God and money”**- Serving selfish desires is contrary to Jesus being Lord of our lives
 - Money in itself is not evil
 - *God blesses some with riches because they will use it for His Kingdom*
 - *God blesses some with abundance because they are faithful to God first*
 - *The pursuit/love of money is evil (1 Timothy 6:10)*
 - *When material things control our thoughts and drive our actions they are against God and His Kingdom*
 - Churches cannot serve the Kingdom of God while hoarding His resources
 - *It becomes about the church more than Christ*
 - *It becomes about making our name great than His*

CROSS-REFERENCES

- **1 Timothy 6:10** *“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”*

(Continued study...Matthew 6)

(v25-26) “Therefore I tell you, **do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?** ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. **Are you not of more value than they?”**

- We are not to be over-focused about our next meal
- We are not to be over-focused on our wardrobe
 - *If we are over-focused on these things we will not be focused on the things of more importance*
 - *God will always see to our needs*
 - *Man is the pinnacle of God's creation and will do much more than he does for the birds*

(v27-29) “ And which of you by **being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?** ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they *neither toil nor spin*, ²⁹ yet I tell you, **even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**”

- **“Being anxious”-**
 - Anxiety/worry does not help our health rather it impacts the quality of our lives in a huge way
 - I am truly earthly view worry altars life and length (although God has factored all of this in we are responsible)
- **“They neither toil nor spin”-**
 - They do not work on their own as God does the producing of life and Splendor
 - Splendor is the focus that happens through growth that God produces
- **“Even Solomon in all His glory was not arrayed like one of these”-**
 - The beauty and splendor in God’s creation where He is solely responsible is of the greatest beauty and glory to God
 - Solomon (Ecclesiasties) rich and wise could not find comfort and glory in all that he could produce--- Vanity is vanity (worthless was all things outside of God’s provisions and will)

CROSS-REFERENCES

- **Ecclesiastes 1:2** “everything is meaningless” “completely meaningless”
- **Ecclesiastes 4:4** “Then I observed that most people are motivated to success because they envy their neighbors. But this, too, is meaningless—like chasing the wind.”

- **Ecclesiastes 5:18-19** “It is good for people to eat, drink, and enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them, and to accept their lot in life. **19** And it is a good thing to receive wealth from God and the good health to enjoy it. To enjoy your work and accept your lot in life—this is indeed a gift from God.”
-

(Continued study...Matthew 6:30)

(v30-32) “But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ **Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’** ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.”

- **“Will he not much more clothe you”-**
 - We are God's pinnacle creation/ made in His image
 - God will provide what we genuinely need
- **“O you of little faith”-**
 - Do we not trust God to provide what we need
 - We must not be like the pagan world that worries about every little thing
- **“Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all”-**
 - God knows what we need
 - God will not deprive us of our genuine needs

CROSS-REFERENCES

- **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14** “Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone’s duty. 14 God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad.”
-

(Continued study...Matthew 6)

(v33-34) “³³ But **seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness**, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

- **“Seek first the Kingdom of God”-**
 - A Christian’s first priority is God’s kingdom above all other concerns
 - Seeking His Kingdom come through the pages of His word

- **“And His Righteousness”-**
 - Seeking His Righteousness is found in desire
 - *(Matthew 5:6) for Justice*
 - *(Matthew 5:10 Persecuted for Christ)*
 - *(Matthew 6:1) Do good for Jesus sake and not for public recognition*

- **“All these things will be added to you”-**
 - Everything material/ necessity that was just discussed in the proceeding verse are all these things
 - When we seek His kingdom and obey His word, we are assured our needs are met
 - Obedience and pursuit of Christ’s Kingdom seem to make His provisions more visible and accessible

- **“Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow”-**
 - When we trust God with today, it is easier to trust Him with our tomorrow as well
 - We are warned and challenged not to worry because we are His

- **“Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”-**
 - We are to just be concerned with what God has in front of us right now
 - Each day will have its own challenges
 - God is over all the challenges (providence)
 - We should remember God's character in each moment as His character becomes the filter for all of life

King Monobaes’ defense for giving away so much to the poor...
“My Father has laid up their wealth on earth; I lay
up mine in heaven”

-Baba Bathra
