

Treasures In Heaven

Matthew 6:19-24

Welcome back and here we go! Today we take on matters of the heart, treasures on earth, treasures in heaven. All of my treasures come from God. So, what is the problem with having stuff? Well, actually, nothing... But the real issue is the position and posture of our hearts!

Matthew 6:19-24

- 1) How does a person lay up treasure in heaven?

That is a great question, Tom. But I think we should start with this actually.

- 2) How do we store up treasure on earth?

The truth is, we all have stuff stored up in boxes, closets, garages, under the bed, outside, even in our cars and wallets!

We collect stuff like crazy, and we are reticent to release anything!

- 3) Why is it so hard to get rid of some things? 3a) Or to give a true 10%?

Well in truth, we derive a sense of security. If I need it, I have it. It's there. Jesus is teaching us that our security is not in physical or financial things. Our security is found in Christ.

I always say..... *How do you know what a person's priorities are?*

- a) Where do they spend their time?
- b) Where do they spend their money?

Jesus calls time and money, TREASURE. We have boxes of stuff that we haven't even looked at for years!

You know, when we talk about money, people become guarded, skeptical, cynical, concerned. They get feelings of guilt or anger or indifference. But it almost always elicits an emotional response. WHY?

Matthew 6:22-23

- 4) Explain these verses.

You see if your light is calculating, untrusting, wary, cold, discriminatory, guarded, skeptical...

...Your light is probably dim. It's hard to be open and loving when you are full of mistrust. It is like a cloud. It dims one light!

- Instead of thinking "why are you asking about it, or talking about me and my stuff???"
- It should be "Great message --- I am doing my part!"

5) Kingdom work is most important to me. This is proof.....

I know that is not a fun question/statement. But we are not here to play *patty-cakes*! We are here to be challenged and to grow, hopefully.

Matthew 6:24

It has been said in WWII that you could not serve Roosevelt and Hitler --- two extremes. But so are Heaven and Hell.

I don't think any of us want to be more endeared with earthly possessions than with God, but I believe we often put more trust in what we can see... like our bank accounts. Nothing here is more valuable than peace with God. But I would like to finish by focusing on

Matthew 6:21

6) Where is your heart today?

This life has been given to you, and it is not your own.

- a) How much of your thinking is self-preservation?
- b) How much is outward? How can you help others?

Kingdom thinking is always outward. We should always be looking to forward spiritual objectives in our lives.

7) (personal) What spiritual objectives are you pursuing now? And what more could you do?

You notice I didn't mention money or time?

Why? Because where your heart is your time and wallet will follow. Where will your heart take you today?

Next week we talk about *Worry & Anxiety*.