

Treasures In Heaven; Matthew 6:19-24

I. Decisions, Decisions

- A. Every day we are caught up making decisions
- B. We make too many to count
- C. But all too often our decisions are based on our physical lives here on this earth
- D. Our decisions ought to be based on our spiritual lives in eternity (Francis Chan')
- E. Sermon on the Mount; I don't think it is just a bunch of disjointed teachings of Jesus
 1. The "blessed"
 2. The quotes of the Pharisees and Scribes versus the intent of the Law
 3. A Matter of the heart (don't do things to be seen as pious)
 4. Treasures in Heaven
 5. Don't worry about anything for your physical being
 6. Teach don't judge
 7. Ask and you will receive
 8. The Golden rule
 9. You can recognize those whose eye is bad (trees and their fruit)
 10. Build on the right foundation

II. Lamps and Eyes

- A. Matthew 6:22–23; 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!
- B. The eye
 1. "The background of this statement was the Jewish concept of the eye being the window of the soul. What one allows into his thought-life determines who he is. Thought produces desire, desire produces action, action reveals the person." Bob Utley
 2. The eye allows either light or darkness in (open or closed)
 3. If you close your eyes against the light then you are forever in darkness
 4. Only when you open your eyes do you allow the light in
 5. "Our eyes can be used to see that which is good or evil, that which is beneficial or harmful, and the things we see and perceive affect our whole being. If we perceive goodness, that will radiate outward from within our hearts and minds. But if we allow our eyes to linger on evil, we are so affected by what we see that darkness actually begins to emanate from within and can corrupt us and those around us."
www.gotquestions.org
- C. With this in mind we can see the parallel to the lamp
 1. Matthew 5:14–16; 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
 2. How can we be a light to the world if all we allow into our minds/souls is darkness?
- D. Our decision (everyday) must be to allow light in and keep darkness out

III. Treasures of Earth

- A. They can be destroyed
 1. To cause to disappear
 2. Ever watch your child after their prize toy has been broken?
 3. Or what about an adult after their prize toy has been broken?

4. Don't put your trust in the treasures of this world, they can be destroyed
- B. They can be stolen
 1. Literally, "dig through"
 2. Many homes of this period had mud walls. In the Greek language, the word for "robber" was from the compound term "mud digger." Bob Utely
 3. That feeling when you walk into your home and realize there is something missing
 4. That feeling when you walk out to where you parked your car and it is not there
 5. Don't put your trust in the treasures of this world, they can be stolen
- C. Luke 12:13–15; 13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." 14 But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" 15 And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

IV. Treasures of Heaven

- A. "Treasure up for yourselves treasure in heaven"
 1. We, as people of God, are expected to keep our minds and actions on heavenly things
 2. 1 Timothy 6:17–19; 17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.
 3. "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required" Luke 12:48 in part
- B. "The inducement that giving to righteous causes is for "yourselves" should not be overlooked. All that one gives or does for the kingdom of God will accrue to his eternal credit. Not even a cup of cold water will lose its reward" James Coffman
- C. Matthew 10:42; And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."
- D. The only things that really matter in this life are the things of heaven!

V. Where is Your Treasure?

- A. Jesus equates our mindset about material wealth with our mindset about the Kingdom
- B. And Jesus says the two are mutually exclusive
- C. You can't have both
- D. You can't have your heart/mind set on the things of this earth and also on the things of heaven
 1. John 12:25; Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
 2. There is nothing this world can offer us that compares with eternal life!
 3. Luke 14:25-33
- E. But there is a reward to this cost of discipleship
 1. Matthew 16:24–27; 24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.
 2. The cost is our earthy life, the reward is a heavenly life

VI. What Will You Decide?

- A. Where is your heart?
- B. Is it full of the treasures of this earth?
- C. Or is it full of the treasures of heaven?