

## Treasure of the Heart; Matthew 6:19-21

### I. Treasure

- A. Our actions speak so much louder than our words
- B. It is easy to tell where our priorities lie
- C. The person of God treasures the spiritual life — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control
- D. The person of the world treasures the material life — possessions, passions, power, control, to be at the top of whatever ladder you are climbing
- E. God cautions us — admonishes us — to keep the world at bay
- F. We must remember to whom we belong and where we are going (our final destination)
- G. All of our actions must move us toward that goal

### II. Possessions

- A. 1 Peter 2:9–10 (ESV); <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.
- B. How do you treat your most treasured possession?
  - 1. Our cars are washed and waxed weekly
  - 2. We have rooms dedicated to our treasures — memorabilia (music, sports, etc.)
  - 3. Alarmed and set inside glass enclosures
  - 4. The point is that we treat them with special kindness and deference
  - 5. Where do you think we get that desire?
- C. We are God's treasured possession and are treated as such
  - 1. In spite of our bad behavior (sin) we are promised forgiveness
    - a) 1 John 4:9–10 (ESV); <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
    - b) Forgiveness for us is not an easy thing, but God gives it freely and continually
  - 2. We are promised that as long as we seek Him, we will never lack in anything we need
    - a) Matthew 6:31–33 (ESV); <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
    - b) We have a tendency to worry about things we cannot control, but God has promised that we will not lack anything we need
  - 3. We are promised a dwelling place with Him
    - a) John 14:1–3 (ESV); <sup>1</sup> "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.
    - b) We have a hard time imagining what heaven will be like, but that is where we will spend eternity

### III. Destination

- A. Heaven is our final destination; it is where we desire to go

- B. 2 Corinthians 4:13–18 (ESV); <sup>13</sup> Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, <sup>14</sup> knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup> For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. <sup>16</sup> So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.
- C. Heaven is a hard concept to understand
1. What makes Heaven so desirable?
  2. What will we do?
  3. Who will we know?
  4. 2 Corinthians 12:2–4 (ESV); <sup>2</sup> I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup> And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup> and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.
- D. I don’t have the specific answer to those tough questions
- E. As we have read it is “glory beyond all comparison”
- F. We will be changed
1. Philippians 3:20–21 (ESV); <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.
  2. Our mortal bodies must become immortal if we are going to spend eternity with God (1 Corinthians 15:35-54)
  3. Our material (natural) bodies must be changed to spiritual (eternal) bodies
- G. We might see some of this “new” body in Jesus’ resurrection
1. Jesus had a physical body, yet he had no need of doors
  2. John 20:26–29 (ESV); <sup>26</sup> Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”
  3. In Luke’s account, Jesus “stood among them”
  4. Jesus ate
  5. Luke 24:40–43 (ESV); <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate before them.
  6. Will our bodies be much like Adam and Eve in the Garden, only we have eaten from the tree of life?
  7. I know, this raises more questions that it answers
- H. In John’s vision into the throne room of God there was much singing and worshipping
1. In Revelation 4:1-2 is very clear about where John is looking — into the throne room of Heaven!

2. Revelation 4:1–2 (ESV); <sup>1</sup> After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” <sup>2</sup> At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.
3. In Revelation 5:8-14 we see a beautiful picture of worship and singing
  - a) The four living creatures
  - b) The 24 elders
  - c) Thousands upon thousands, myriads upon myriads of angels
  - d) Every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them
- I. We see hints and pictures of what Heaven will be like and what we will do
- J. I moved about every 4 years in the Air Force — 7 times total (not including my 4-6 month deployments)
  1. Anticipation of going to a base where I had never been
  2. Anticipation of meeting new people and experience different cultures
  3. There is something exciting about a fresh new experience in which we don't have all the information
- IV. Treasured
  - A. We do know that God treasures us (1 Peter 2:9)
  - B. We do know that God wants to give us good gifts (James 1:17)
  - C. My faith is in a God who knows me intimately
  - D. My faith is in a God who wants only the best for me, in this life and in eternity