

EBC – Adult Bible Study
“Spirit Empowered, Godly Living in an Ungodly World”
2019-2020

II. Living with the “Secular” and the “Sacred” together – Duty with expected return or Delight – Mt 6

- A. A review of principles dealing with money
 - 1. God owns everything – Ps 24:1; 50:10-12
 - 2. Money is about discipleship – Phil 4:11-12; 1 Ti 6:6-10
 - 3. We need to learn that we can't put our hope in money (which is a form of Worship) – Ps 62:10; 1 Ti 6:17
 - 4. We need to learn to be content - Phil 4:11-12; Heb 13:5
 - 5. We need to learn to work to earn money – Eph 4:28; 1Th 4:11; 2Th 3:8,11-12
 - 6. We need to learn to put away greed – Pr 28:22; Mt 13:22
 - 7. We need to be careful about debt – Pr 6:1-5; 22:7
 - 8. We need to learn to manage our money – A 2 step program
 - a. Make a plan – Lk 14:28-30
 - b. Work the plan
 - 9. We need to learn that money does not solve all problems, but brings more – Mt 6:24
- B. What is our natural tendency when we see a list of biblical principles?
 - 1. We make our check list
 - a. see which ones we are doing
 - b. which ones we think we can do
 - c. try and figure out how we can do the ones we can't do
 - 2. measure ourselves against everyone else by the list
- C. What is the expectation if or when we are doing the principles?
- D. Principles are not enough
 - 1. Any unbeliever could follow the principles and do better with their finances, maybe even become prosperous
 - 2. We're not trying to be moralists or Pharisees
 - 3. A Major Question - Does the Gospel do more for us than just maybe live a better life and get us to heaven when we die?
- E. The Warnings against doing what God has said to do for the wrong reasons – Mt 6
 - 1. Doing for Men to see or with the wrong heart
 - a. charitable deeds – vs 1-2 - no reward from your Father in heaven
 - b. Praying – vs 5,7 - they have their reward.
 - c. Fasting – vs 16 - they have their reward.
 - d. Example of doing what God said for the sake of doing it – Sacrifices and Burnt offerings
 - i. Who told Israel about sacrifices and burnt offerings?

- ii. What does He say when their sacrifices and burnt offerings are given with the wrong heart – Is 1:10-15
- iii. What does He want?
 - Ho 6:6 For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.
 - Pr 21:3 To do righteousness and justice Is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2. Doing for God

- a. charitable deeds – vs 3-4 - your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly
- b. Praying – vs 6,8 - your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.
- c. Fasting – vs 17-18 - your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly

F. Note the focus of the disciple's prayer

- 1. God's Person and Program – vs 9-10, 13b
- 2. Trust for Daily provision – vs 11-13a
 - a. Food
 - b. Forgiveness
 - c. Protection

- 3. Side note – Forgiveness is conditional – vs 14-15 – the right heart/ living by faith

G. Signs and benefits of the right heart

- 1. Focus of the heart
 - a. Here – living for temporary rewards – vs 19 – you can lose it
 - b. There - living for eternal rewards – vs 20 – you can't lose it
- 2. Focus determines condition of the heart
 - a. Your heart is where you treasure is – vs 21
 - b. Focus on Eternal – heart full of light - vs 22
 - c. Focus on temporary – heart full of darkness – vs 23
 - d. Can't be focused on both – vs 24

H. Exhortation with Examples

- 1. Don't worry – vs 25, 31, 34
 - a. Life – vs 25
 - b. Food – vs 25
 - c. Clothes – vs 25
 - d. Tomorrow – vs 34
- 2. God will take care of you
 - a. Takes care of birds – vs 26
 - b. Takes care of fields – vs 28
- 3. The story of self-effort – vs 27, 29
 - a. Can worry change anything – vs 27
 - b. Solomon with all his money couldn't out do God – vs 29

4. Faith (the heart) is the issue – Pro 4:23
 - a. Are you not of more value than they? – vs 26b
 - b. will He not much more clothe you – vs 31
 - c. For after all these things the Gentiles seek – vs 32a
 - d. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things – vs 32b

5. With the heart Seek God – vs 33

I. Application

1. Like Israel, if we listen to sermons to get the list and hope for the best, we will be no different from the unbeliever – operating out of duty
2. If we, by the Spirit, learn how to live according to the principles of God's word, b/c we delight in pleasing Him, God will use us according to His design
– Phil 2:14-16 Do all things without complaining and disputing,
that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault
in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation,
among whom you shine as lights in the world,
holding fast the word of life,
so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.