

Morning Sermon July 19, 2020

“Where is Your Treasure?” Matthew 6:19-34

This is a sermon I have needed first for myself!

I. Watch your heart –

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. Matthew 6:19-21

1. About laying up “treasures” on earth, Jesus did not –

²⁰ And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” Matthew 8:20 (NKJV)

A. He had no house; He did not marry or have any physical children, He laid up no treasure at all on earth –

Missionaries are often called to such a life -

“The vows of God are on me, I may not stay to play with shadows, or to pluck earthly flowers until I my work have done and have rendered up account.” Amy Carmichael

B. However, his follower, Peter did have a house, and a family –

¹⁴ Now when Jesus had come into Peter’s house, He saw his wife’s mother lying sick with a fever. ¹⁵ So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them. Matthew 8:14–15 (NKJV)

C. Others who were true believers (David, Solomon) were blessed with material wealth, and yet that wealth could be a snare –

²³ So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. 1 Kings 10:23 (NKJV)

Remember Solomon did not pray for riches, he did not seek them but got them anyway –

¹¹ Then God said to Solomon: “Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life—but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king—¹² wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you

riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like.” 2 Chronicles 1:11–12 (NKJV)

II. Watch your eyes –

²² “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! Matthew 6:22-23

1. Riches can distract us from God –

We need to pray, that God / Christ would be our Vision, instead of riches, wealth or fame –

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

1. They lie to us, and can choke off the Word –

²² Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. Matthew 13:22 (NKJV)

2. They can lead us fully away from the call of Christ –

A. Demas was at one point a fellow-laborer with the Apostle Paul

–

²⁴ as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers. Philemon 24 (NKJV)

B. Yet, in the end he loved the world, forsaking Christ’s cross –

¹⁰ for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica... 2 Timothy 4:10 (NKJV)

C. We are called not to love the world –

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:15–17 (NKJV)

3. Our minds and eyes are to be set on God and Christ, He is the Light of a dark world –

³ You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose mind is stayed on You*, Because he trusts in You. ⁴ Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength. Isaiah 26:3–4 (NKJV)

¹² Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” John 8:12 (NKJV)

I mention Christ being the Light of the world because here Jesus speaks of the The lamp of the body is the eye. This lamp must be lit by the Light of Christ or else it is full of darkness ... Matthew 6:22-23

For me this means Christ must be my TREASURE, my house, whatever else I might have are TOOLS, for serving, honoring Christ!

III. Decide Whom / what you will serve –

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

What gets your time, your effort, your all and all is your Master! Do material things (mammon) control and rule you? Or does God?

IV. Do not worry –

²⁵ “Therefore I say to you, do not worry 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, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

²⁸ “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹ and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?

³¹ “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

My Dad’s favorite song – “Don’t Worry Be Happy!”

Things Christ says not to worry about:

1. Food – Matthew 6:25
2. Drink – Matthew 6:25
3. Clothing – Matthew 6:25

Why not worry about these things?

1. God provides for the birds; he will provide for you – Matthew 6:26
2. Worry won’t make you taller – Matthew 6:27
3. God provides glorious clothing for flowers – Matthew 6:28-30
4. Jesus repeats, don’t worry, God will provide – Matthew 6:31-32

V. Seek first God’s Kingdom –

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

1. The Kingdom of God is to be a priority above our own physical needs -

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness... Matthew 6:33A

2. This Christ had already hinted at in the Lord’s Prayer –

¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. Matthew 6:10–12 (NKJV)

3. When we make God’s Kingdom our priority other things are provided by God with His blessing –

and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Food, clothing, shelter ... Tomorrow we are not to worry about!

Arnold Brevick