

The Gospel of Matthew

“Treasure in Heaven”
Matthew 6:19-24

Matthew 6:19-34

Overview: Three Imperatives

- *Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness”*
- *“Lay up treasures in heaven, not on earth”*
- *“Do not be anxious for tomorrow”*

Treasure in Heaven

1. Command

a) negative: *“do not lay up treasures on earth”*

- prohibition of selfish stockpiling of perishable treasures motivated by greed or anxiety
- this is ultimately a bad investment – earthly treasure will not last!

Treasure in Heaven

1. Command

b) positive: *“lay up treasures in heaven”*

(1) *What are these “treasures”?*

- degrees of joy in God and the gifts He lavishes on us in heaven

Treasure in Heaven

1. Command

b) positive: *“lay up treasures in heaven”*

(2) *How do we lay up treasure in heaven?*

- through sacrificial, generous giving for the sake of Christ and His kingdom

Treasure in Heaven

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has gladly chosen to give you the kingdom.

Sell your possessions and give to charity, make yourselves purses which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near, nor moth destroys.

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Luke 12:32-33)

Treasure in Heaven

“Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,

storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.” (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

Treasure in Heaven

Treasure Principle

“you can't take it with you – but you can send it on ahead”

(R. Alcorn)

Treasure in Heaven

2. Reason

➤ *the correlation between treasure and heart*

- how we handle and view our possessions is an index of our heart's condition
- our heart follows our treasure

Treasure in Heaven

3. Two Metaphors

a) the eye is the lamp of the body

- one with a “healthy” (single) eye has an eternal perspective on his possessions
- one with a bad eye has no spiritual sight and sees only the temporal

Treasure in Heaven

3. Two Metaphors

b) slave and master

- mammon is a potential master, a substitute god, usurping His place in our affections
- if you serve money, you are not serving God

Whom do you serve today? God or mammon?