

Treasure in Heaven

 *November 2*

**INTRODUCTION:**  So far in ch. 6 Jesus has been warning against religious hypocrisy and focusing on how to truly practice righteousness from the heart. We will practice righteousness if our focus in life is correct.

**KEY POINT:** kingdom values

**CHALLENGE:** In one sitting, read the whole sermon often over the coming months.

**A.M. SERMON RECAP** (Prov 17:19, The Poor)

* Who are the poor and general comments on poverty?
* Why should we be generous with the poor?
* How is it possible to lend to the Lord?
* What sorts of rewards are we promised?

**P.M. SERMON RECAP** (WWBWWB: Gender)

* Share a contemporary gender story that has concerned or saddened you.
* Biblically, why is gender-confusion wrong?
* At its heart, why is this a matter of identity?
* How should we respond to gender-confusion?

**READ:** Mt 6:19–24

**QUESTIONS:**

Our passage comes in three inter-related parts:

Part One, vv. 19–20

1. V.19- what is being described here? (*Fun fact, “break in” litt. means dig in as most homes were mud*).
2. **How do people, especially in our materialistic world, lay up “treasure on earth”?**
3. **While such things may not be inherently wrong (c.f. 1 Ti 6:10), why should they not be our great purpose?** *(c.f. Eccl 1:14- vanity (mist); a chasing after the wind).*
4. **Why is “laying up” heavenly treasure a far better and safer option? How do we do this? How is this already and not yet?**
5. Share a time when you “went off course” by not keeping focus on what mattered most (e.g. while driving).
6. V. 21- *What we value governs our lives*. **Discuss the brilliance of this saying. How can we determine what focus is driving our life?**

Part Two, vv. 22–23

1. **What on earth is this passage about/saying?**
2. *Another way of casting this passage is “the window is the source of light to a room.” The ESV says “healthy” but other translations render it “good” (NKJV); “clear” (NASB); “single” (KJV). The word means “singleness of purpose, undivided loyalty.”* **In light of this, how ought we understand these two verses?**
3. What then is light (c.f. Mt 5:14)?
4. If our focus is on Christ and His kingdom our life will be…? And if not it will be…?

Part Three, v. 24

1. *So far Jesus has spoken about what we value and where our focus is. This last illustration develops the second further.*
2. *Master means more than an employer (we can have two employers in a modern sense); it is who owns us, to whom we belong. Love/hate language here is one of preference not that something is morally wrong (c.f. Lk 14:26). The KJV translates money as mammon (stuff), which has as its root “something in which one puts confidence.”*
3. *Master= ultimate allegiance or preference.*
4. **How do crises reveal someone’s true master?**
5. **Why is compromise not an option for a disciple? What does it say about Lordship?**
6. **How will compromise not produce the righteousness in us that Jesus desires?**
7. *To recap, our passage is about value, focus and allegiance.*

**Next Week:** Anxiety, Mt 6:25–34