



Matthew 6:19-24

THE LOYALTY OF YOUR HEART

Lay up not for yourselves treasures. "Treasures" is a very large term and all-inclusive. It includes money, but it is not money only. It means something much more important. Our Lord is concerned here not so much about our possessions as with our attitude toward our possessions. It is not what a man may have, but what he thinks of his wealth, what his attitude is towards it. ...Indeed we go further. It is a question of one's whole attitude towards life in this world. Our Lord is dealing here with people who get their main, or even total, satisfaction in this life from things that belong to this world only...who confine their ambitions, their interests, and their hopes to this life. ...It becomes a much bigger subject than the mere possession of money. Poor people need this exhortation as much as the rich. We all have treasures in some shape or form. It may not be money. It may be husband, wife or children; it may be some gift we have which in actual worth and monetary value is small. To some people their treasure is their house. No matter what it is, or how small it is, if it is everything to you, that is your treasure, that is the thing for which you are living. This is the danger against which our Lord is warning us at this particular point. —D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

The Purpose of the Sermon on the Mount:

- To characterize the true nature of a kingdom citizen.
- To confront people with the perfect righteousness of God.
- To call people to a life submitted to Jesus, the King.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus confronts those who think that they are righteous and have no need to repent. He raises the bar of God's righteousness to its true level and exposes the hypocrisy of their own external righteousness. The issue is always the heart.



For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7b)

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it (Proverbs 4:23).

Search me, O God, and know my heart... (Psalm 139:23a)

Seven Rules for Self-Discovery:

1. What I want most.
2. What I think about most.
3. How I use my money.
4. What I do with leisure time.
5. The company I enjoy.
6. Who I admire.
7. What I laugh at.

—A. W. Tozer

True, sound wisdom consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves. —John Calvin

What a man loves, that is his God. For he carries it in his heart, he goes about with it night and day, he sleeps and wakes with it.

—Martin Luther

There is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.

—David Foster Wallace

What we focus on comes to control our thoughts, our actions, and indeed, our very lives. Whatever we focus on actually wires our neurons. —Kare Anderson

WHERE IS MY TREASURE? (6:19-21)

Jesus gives a primary command in this passage—*stop laying up treasures for yourselves on earth instead lay them up in heaven.*

- We all have a _____.
- My treasure is either on _____ or in _____.
- My treasure is either _____ or _____.
- My treasure reveals my _____.

WHAT DO I SEE? (6:22-23)

- My eyes reveal my _____ and my _____.
- My eyes are either _____ or _____.
- To see wrongly is to miss _____.
- My eyes are _____ into my heart.

WHO IS MY LORD? (6:24)

- _____ and _____ are exclusive by nature.
- I am created as a _____. If I do not choose God as my ultimate love, trust, security, and foundation, then I have already chosen something else to take His place.
- How I use my _____ reveals my heart.

WHERE IS YOUR HEART?

Wherever men imagine the greatest happiness to be, there they are surrounded and confined. If honor is reckoned the supreme good, the minds of men must be wholly occupied with ambition; if money, covetousness will immediately predominate; if pleasure, it will be impossible to prevent men from sinking into brutal indulgence. —John Calvin

Jesus is not saying that if we put our treasure in the right place our heart will then be in the right place, but that the location of our treasure indicates where our heart already is. Spiritual problems are always heart problems. —John MacArthur, Jr.

The heart is the eye of the soul. The affections turn the man in a certain direction, and where the affections go, the eye is turned. —Charles H. Spurgeon

Healthy. Greek, *haplous*, “single, simple, healthy, clear, good, fulfilling its purpose.” (Thayer)

This verse [6:23] is the strongest warning against self-deception imaginable. —Spiros Zodhiates

Seeing falsely is worse than blindness. A man who is too dim-sighted to discern the road from the ditch may feel which is which, but if the ditch appears to be the road, what shall become of him? —John Ruskin

Mammon. Aramaic, “riches.” Related to Hebrew, *aman*, “that in which one trusts” (Kittel). It is riches as one’s god and security.

Hold loosely the things of earth. —Corrie ten Boom