

Introduction

? What comes to mind when you think of a person as being rich?

? Would you consider yourself rich? Why or why not?

1. The Treasure (Matt. 6:19-21)

? Even if we know this truth that Jesus taught, why are we often tempted to labor for earthly treasure that will not last? What are some specific examples of earthly treasure that threaten to lure you away from laboring for eternal treasure in heaven?


? What are some ways that Christians labor for treasure that is in heaven? Why is it important to remember that Christians never labor to gain heaven, but as those already secure in Christ?

? Application: Does your life give greater evidence that you labor for earthly treasure or heavenly treasure? How is God calling you to respond to this realization?


2. The Eye (Matt. 6:22-23)


? What does generosity have to do with storing up treasures in heaven? How are these two sections connected?


? What motivates Christians to give of their material resources freely and sacrificially for the work of the ministry and for the good of their neighbors?

 Application: How have you found a connection in your life between the amount you value treasure in heaven and the amount you are willing to give of your earthly possessions? How might you seek to assess this in your own life?


3. The Servant (Matt. 6:24)


 What are some ways a person might seek to serve both God and money? How have you been tempted by this personally?


 Does this mean that money is evil? Was Jesus prohibiting Christians from having anything to do with money or to treat it as a necessary evil? Explain.

 Application: How might you rightly evaluate whether you are serving God or money (or any other idol) in your life? What needs to change in your life that you might serve God alone?

Conclusion

 What is your greatest treasure? What would those who observe your daily life say is your treasure? What possessions do you have that you are simply unwilling to let go of? Is there anything that you might be holding onto with too tight of a fist?

 How does your relationship to the things of this world impact your willingness to give to God and others?

 How might it impact the world if Christians were to hold the things of the world loosely, trusting that they will receive an eternal treasure in heaven? How might this impact our local community if we lived this way?

Daily Readings

- Monday - Philippians 4:6-7
- Tuesday - 1 Peter 5:6-7
- Wednesday - 2 Timothy 1:7

- Thursday - Psalm 55:22
- Friday - Isaiah 41:10
- Saturday - Matthew 11:28-30