

The Gospel of Matthew #63**Sermon on the Mount: chapter 6: LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD**Overview of chapter 6:

He is teaching us to live *consistently* with what we say we believe:

- An unseen eternal Kingdom of God our Home
- A heavenly **Father** Who the center of our affections & Help

But we live as practical atheists in 2 basic ways:

1. Whose FAVOR we seek: v1-18

Egs: A. Giving (v2-4) B. Praying (v5-15) C. Fasting (v16-18)

Key idea: your heavenly Father knows your heart

2. What TREASURES we seek: v19-34

Our preoccupation with STUFF: **A. Acquisition (v19-24)**

B. Anxiety (v25-34)

Each one cries, "More!"

Key idea: your heavenly Father knows your need

4 sets of contrasting alternatives:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1) 2 treasures: earth v heaven: | v19-21 |
| 2) 2 "eyes": bad v good: | v22-23 |
| 3) 2 masters: money v God: | v24 |
| 4) 2 preoccupations: our bodies v God's Kingdom | v25-34 |

In each case you must CHOOSE. It is either/or.

Ch 5: righteousness → ch 6: **FAITH**

ACQUISITION: JESUS' 3 CONSIDERATIONS (v19-24)**FIRST: YOUR TREASURE AND YOUR HEART****Matt 6:19-21**

I. Where is your _____? v19-20

Not that treasure on earth is wrong. Rather it is STUPID

Why?

It doesn't last! 1. Destroyed

2. Stolen

Contrast treasures in Heaven: I Peter 1:4

You cannot take it with you. But you can send it on ahead!

How you live here has eternal consequences:
Where you spend eternity depends on your faith in Christ.
What you “have” there depends on how you invest your life.

II. Where is your _____? v21

Why “For...”? Refers to v1-18: rewards of the Father in Heaven
(v1, 4, 6, 9-10, 18)

Your heart follows your investments
To say I am a Christian and spend most of my energy and resources on
treasures in this temporary home is stupid (eg Ireland)

More serious: it reveals where my heart really is.

That should be a warning alarm.

What are your true treasures in life?

What do you dream about? Spend money on? Plan for? Where does
your mind drift to when idle?

You were made for One Person: Jesus

And one Place: Heaven

Cf. Matt 13:44-46.

Jesus is the Pearl and His Kingdom is the Treasure.

Fill in the enclosed **Values Snapshot** honestly for yourself.

Which of these *good things* are your greatest temptations to lay up your
treasures in this short term world rather than in the Eternal Treasure
of Christ's Kingdom?

What does Jesus want to free you from so you will have *greater* treasure?

What will you do about that?