

# Treasures in Heaven

## Introduction

### Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

1. While on earth, Jesus saw men gathering silver, gold, and even valuable garments.
  - A. In several Bible passages, Jesus gives all men a much needed lesson – that there is no security in gathering earthly treasures.
  - B. No matter how much a man may possess here on earth, he is still, like each one of us, a heartbeat away from the grave.
2. Our earthly possessions can be stolen by thieves, and our garments will eventually grow old and be eaten by moths.
3. A key passage of scripture taught to us by Jesus is:

Matthew 6:19-21 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

- A. This passage tells us two things of great importance:
  - 1) What really matters is storing up treasures in heaven.
  - 2) Whatever our treasure is – there we will find our heart.

## Understanding Heavenly Treasures

1. **The nature of heavenly treasures**
  - A. **Eternal and imperishable – they do not end, nor fade away.**
  - B. **Spiritual in nature rather than material.**
    - 1) **Heavenly treasures cannot be lost or stolen. They are deposited in heaven.**
2. **In Matthew 19:21, this is a call by Jesus to us to give up earthly wealth for the heavenly riches.**
  - A. **He knows our heart and therefore He knows what truly is important to us and where our real priorities are.**
  - B. **Jesus tells us also the importance of generosity and storing treasures in heaven.**

Luke 12:33-34 Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

## Types of Treasures in Heaven

1. What will the storing up of treasures in heaven benefit us?
  - A. Salvation and Eternal life!
    - 1) The ultimate treasure of being with God forever!
  - B. Rewards for our faithfulness here on earth.
    - 1) We will receive the “crown of life” (Revelation 2:10) and the “crown of righteousness.”  
**2 Timothy 4:8**
    - 2) The parable of the two faithful servants (Matt 25:14f)
      - a. They invested wisely with what they had been given. In the spiritual sense, we need to invest wisely in what we have been blessed with by God.
2. What are some things that we can do that will generate us “laying up treasures in heaven?”
  - A. Acts of kindness
    - 1) Volunteering our time for our fellow man.
    - 2) Helping a neighbor in need (groceries, yard work, or just taking the time to listen).

**B. Generosity and giving**

- 1) Donating our time and money to others
- 2) Supporting and helping with our local congregation

**C. Building relationships**

- 1) Investing our time nurturing relationships such as our family, friends, and mentoring others.
- 2) Truly practicing forgiveness and reconciliation in relationships – that reflect Christ’s love.

**D. Living with integrity**

- 1) Upholding honesty and integrity in our daily work and interactions with others.
- 2) Being a positive influence and a godly example in our workplace or community.

**E. Prayer and spiritual growth**

- 1) Regularly spending time in prayer and Bible study to grow closer to God.
- 2) Encouraging and supporting others in their spiritual journeys.

- **These everyday actions, while simple, reflect a heart focused on eternal values and contribute to storing up treasures in heaven!**

## Illustrative Stories to Learn By

1. **The rich young ruler.**  
**Matthew 19:16-22**
  - A. This shows the challenge that most everyone faces in choosing heavenly treasures over earthly wealth.
  
2. **The widow's mite.**  
**Mark 12:41-44**
  - A. This shows us the value of sacrificial giving and the eternal significance of small acts of faith.

## Conclusion

1. **We need to ensure, as Christians, that we are prioritizing the eternal over the temporal.**
  - A. Always strive to invest in what really does last forever.
  
2. **Look within ourselves on a daily basis to reflect on our personal priorities.**
  - A. Let us truly see what we seem to value the most in the life we are living here on earth.
  
  - B. Strive to align daily living with our heavenly priorities.
  
3. **Remember, we can't afford to miss heaven for the world!**

