Mt.6.19-24 "Treasure In Heaven" Matthew Series: 'THE KING IS COMING' #84 June 28, 2020

Human beings are naturally thing-oriented - the propensity to build our lives around things is great.

The leading religionists of Jesus' day were preoccupied with things.

- ✓ their view of nonessential material things was <u>perverted</u> (vv.4–24) &
- ✓ their view of essential material things was also perverted (vv.25–34).

False doctrine leads to:

- ➢ false standards,
- ➢ false <u>behavior</u>, &
- ➢ false <u>values</u>, &

Hypocritical religion seems always to be accompanied by greed & immorality (II Pe.2.1–3, 14–15).

To claim God's approval simply on the basis of things is to pervert His Word & use His name in vain.

In the present passage Jesus looks at materialism-

I. ONE TREASURE vv.19–21

Jesus is not advocating **poverty** as a means to spirituality

Ananias & Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit (Ac.5.3).

God expects His people to be generous.

The Bible gives considerable counsel for working <u>hard</u> & following good business <u>practices</u> (25.27).

It is right:

To <u>honestly</u> earn, save, & to give is wise & good;

To hoard & spend only on ourselves is <u>sinful</u>.

When our time, energy, & possessions are used to:

- ✤ <u>serve</u> others &
- to further the Lord's work,

they **build up** heavenly resources that are completely free from destruction or theft.

Heavenly security is the only absolute security.

Mt.6.19-24 "Treasure In Heaven" part 2 Matthew Series: 'THE KING IS COMING' #85 July 5, 2020

The heart must be right first.

The person who is right with the Lord will be generous & happy in his giving to the Lord's work.

Sinful acts come from a sinful heart, just as righteous acts come from a righteous heart.

Through hearing God's Word the people became convicted of their sin,

Our material possessions are "unrighteous" in the sense of not having any <u>spiritual</u> value in themselves. But if we invest them in the welfare of <u>human</u> <u>souls</u>, the people who are saved will someday greet us in heaven with thanksgiving.

II. ONE <u>VISION</u> vv.22–23

The heart is the eye of the soul...

The eye that is bad is the <u>heart</u> that is selfishly indulgent.

The principle is simple: the way we look at & use our money is a sure barometer of our **<u>spiritual</u>** condition.

III. ONE MASTER v.24

When we trusted in Christ, we became slaves of God & of righteousness (Ro.6.16–22).

The orders of those two masters are diametrically opposed & cannot coexist;

- The one commands us to walk by <u>faith</u> & the other demands we walk by <u>sight;</u>
- The one calls us to be <u>humble</u> & the other to be <u>proud</u>;
- the one to set our minds on things <u>above</u> & the other to set them on things <u>below</u>;
- One calls us to love <u>light</u>, the other to love <u>darkness</u>;
- > The one tells us to look toward things unseen/eternal & the other to look at things seen/temporal

The person whose **master** is Jesus Christ can say that;

- ✤ When he eats or drinks or does anything else, he does *"all to the glory of God"* (I Co.10.31).
- He can say with David, "I have set the Lord always before me" (Ps.16.8), &
- ♦ With Caleb when he was 85 years old, *"I wholly followed the LORD my God"* (Jo.14.8).