

Cheating Yourself

What the Bible says
about our **Finances!**

Matthew 6:19 - 24



JESUS SAW MONEY DIFFERENTLY

- Mark 12:41 – 44, Jesus sat opposite treasury...
- Luke 12:18f - ... I will do this, ... build bigger...
- Luke 11:42, Matt 23:23. To the Pharisees - ...you should do these things [tithe] but you do them and neglect the things that matter, justice and mercy....

JESUS' EMPHASIS ON FINANCES/ POSSESSIONS

- Matt 19- young ruler
- Luke 12 - rich man's barns
- Matt 13, treasure in field
- Luke 3 - John the Baptist
- Luke 15 - prodigal
- Luke 16 - rich man and Lazarus
- Mark 4 - seeds choked by deceitful riches
- Mark 12 - poor widow
- Matt 25 - talents

1. JESUS' SPECIFIC INSTRUCTION IS TO STORE UP TREASURES FOR OURSELVES

- Matt 6:20.
- Luke 16:10-13. Entrustment for true gifts.
- There are two types of treasures to store up:
 1. Treasures on earth
 2. Treasures in heaven

WHAT ARE TREASURES ON EARTH?

- Ecclesiastes 2:8 – 13
- Waste away, destroyed: moth, rust, thieves, Malachi 3:11 (rust, devourer)
- Separate us from God, distract us:
 - Mark 4:19, deceitful riches chokes the seed

2. THE CONDITION OF THE HEART IS REVEALED BY OUR TREASURY

- V 21. Treasure = heart.
- Zaccheus, Luke 19:8-10
- Rich man, Luke 12:18-21
 - Hebrews 13:5-6
 - 1 Tim 3:2-3
 - 1 Tim 6:10-11

3. THERE ARE TWO “EYES,” TWO LOVES

1. One that is clear, single-purposed on God.
2. One that is bad, cloudy, single-purposed on self.

THE DANGER OF “LOVING” OUR EARTHLY POSSESSIONS

- Luke 12:15, Beware of every form of greed...
- Hebrews 13:5-6, Make sure your character is free from the love of money, being content ...
- 1 Tim 3:2-3, In the last days....people will be lovers of self, lovers of money...
- 1 Tim 6:10, For the love of money is a root of sorts of evil...

4. STORED UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN

- Moth, rust, thieves cannot touch them.
- Eternal in nature. Keep paying rewards, forever.
- Are the measure of God's giving to us that they might keep on giving.
 - Luke 6:38

WISE INVESTING VS CHEATING OURSELVES.

1. Christ is advising us how to invest wisely.
2. When we are “rich toward God” we lay up eternal treasures for ourselves. Luke 12:21
3. When we are rich towards God, it changes the condition of the human heart, bringing it life. 1 Tim 6:19, “... be generous so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.”