



# The Gospel According To MATTHEW

## Chapter 6:19-34

### “Treasures, Pleasures & Promises!”

#### > (v19-24) DISCOVER TRUE TREASURES!

(v19) *“Do not lay up treasures on earth”* – Moths eat clothing, rust destroys our cars and thieves take everything else. Job learned this lesson well, he lost everything and responded with *“Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”* (Job 1:21)

- King Solomon experienced phenomenal wealth, fame and power, yet he proclaims, *“And I saw that all labor and all achievement spring from man's envy of his neighbor. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.”* (Eccl 4:4)

#### > (v20-21) Jesus says treasures on earth are fleeting!

- Listen to our Lord's counsel to a rich young ruler,

*Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good\* Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”*

*So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which ones?”*

*Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”\**

*The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”*

*Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”*

*But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (Matthew 19:16-30)*

- Beware! Ungodly desires can lead to everlasting fire! – Paul writes in 1 Timothy 6:9 - *But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.*

- Jesus warned us about our priorities in the “Parable of the Rich Fool” in Luke 12:13-21 –

*Then one from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?”*

*And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”*

*Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.’*

*And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'*

*"So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."*

**- The right heart starts with PRIORITY, not PROPERTY!**

*In Hebrews 11:24-26 we are told, By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.*

*Paul writes in Philippians 3:7-9 - But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ*

*Also, in 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content*

**> (v22-23) EYE SEE LIGHT VS. DARKNESS – GOOD VS. BAD, WHO ARE WE?**

*(v22) "The lamp of the body is the eye" - Darkness represents an evil eye of covetousness, envy, selfishness.*

*- An eye full of light looks to God and to others, Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)*

**(v24) WHO DO WE SERVE? GOD OR MONEY?**

*King Solomon once again brings truth to our money madness - Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless. (Eccl 5:10)*

*Paul writes in 1 Timothy 6:10 - For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

*Jesus said in Matthew 13:22 - Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.*

*- Someone wrote this about MONEY – It can buy you a house, but not a home. It can buy you a bed, but not sleep. It can buy you a clock, but not time. It can buy you a book, but not knowledge. It can buy you a position, but not respect. It can buy you sex, but not love. It can buy you medicine, but not health. It can buy you blood, but not life!*

*- Here's God's financial principle for His people - Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. (Proverbs 3:9-10)*

Jesus said, *Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.*" (Luke 6:38)

Also, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* (Acts 20:35)

Paul writes, *But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.* (2 Cor 9:6)

- Remember God owns everything, and we are called to be good stewards of all He has given us. Our charitable deeds can bring dividends in the present and eternal rewards in the future!

### > (v25-34) ***DON'T WORRY! WORSHIP GOD!***

(v25-32) *Worry depletes joy and robs pleasure. WORRY in the Greek is merimnao - to be anxious about, which is characterized by extreme uneasiness of mind or brooding fear.*

Dr. Charles Mayo, of the famous Mayo clinic wrote, "Worry affects the circulation, the heart, the glands and the whole nervous system. I have never met a man or known a man to die of overwork, but I have known a lot who died of worry."

Basic worries are FOOD & CLOTHING. Then there's everything else we worry about like: *health, singleness, marriage, children, job, acceptance, status, achievement, taxes, death & hell!*

### > (v33) ***WORSHIP GOD, HOW?***

- Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

#### > How do we "Seek first the kingdom of God"?

- BACK TO BASICS: Acts 2:40-47 - *And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.*

*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

*Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.*

*So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*

#### > How do we seek "His righteousness"?

- Paul writes in Romans 6:12-23 - *Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*

*What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*

*But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh.*

*For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.*

*For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.*

*But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

> **A lesson in Contrast:**

**Unrighteous or Righteous**

Prideful or *Humble* (Micah 6:8)

Master or *Servant* (Matt. 20:28)

Mean or *Loving* (John 13:34)

Liar or *Honest* (Eph. 4:15)

Lazy or *Industrious* (Eph. 4:28)

Worldly or *Godly* (1 John 2:16-17)

Fleshly or *Spiritual* (Gal. 5:19-26)

Fear (worry) or *Faith* (Matt. 6:25-34)

Angry or *Happy* (1Thess. 5:16)

Negative (discourager) or *Positive* (encourager, edify) (1Thess. 5:11)

Selfish or *Giving* (John 3:16)

Ingratitude or *Thankful* (1 Thess. 5:18)

Me or *JESUS!* (The whole Bible)

> **When we seek first the KINGDOM OF GOD and HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, we'll experience AWESOME PLEASURES and PROMISES!**

**Such as:**

- *We will receive the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord, Savior and Bridegroom!*
- *We will experience our Father's magnificent love and amazing grace!*
- *We will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who will help us, comfort us, and change our lives!*
- *We will know God's inspired word, His instructions for life, love, joy, hope and peace!*
- *We will have our prayers heard and answered!*
- *We will absolutely know we are going to heaven; receiving everlasting life!*

(v34) *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*

> **Two Days We Should Not Worry - By Author Unknown**

There are two days in every week, about which we should not worry, two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is *Yesterday* with all its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. *Yesterday* has passed forever beyond our control. All the money in the world cannot bring back *Yesterday*. We cannot undo a single act we performed; we cannot erase a single word we said. *Yesterday* is gone forever.

The other day we should not worry about is *Tomorrow* with all its possible adversities, its burdens, its large promise and its poor performance; *Tomorrow* is also beyond our immediate control. *Tomorrow's* sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds, but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in *Tomorrow*, for it is yet to be born.

This leaves only one day, *Today*. Any person can fight the battle of just one day. It is when you and I add the burdens of those two awful eternities *Yesterday* and *Tomorrow* that we break down.

It is not the experience of *Today* that drives a person mad, it is the remorse or bitterness of something which happened *Yesterday* and the dread of what *Tomorrow* may bring. Let us, therefore, live but one day at a time.