

Spiritual Values

Chapter 20

Audio lesson: Sermon on the Mount 20



Objective: To understand the values that a disciple of Jesus should have. (Text: Matthew 6:19-34)



“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

—Matthew 6:19-21

One of the reasons people have so many problems is that they do not have the right values. Disciples who have the right attitudes within them are living with the right values. That is why they can have a salt and light influence in the world; their priorities are based on eternity and not on earthly treasures.

The way we deal with money and possessions reveals a lot about our values. Our heart is always with what we truly treasure. Do we spend ourselves for temporal or eternal treasures? According to Jesus, we can know what our values are by what we do with our time, what we think about, what anxieties and ambitions we have, and what we serve. It is possible to serve only one master, so we cannot serve both God and money. But if we serve God wholeheartedly, we can find a life of joy and peace.



1. True or **false**? There is no connection between what we treasure and the condition of our hearts.
2. **True** or false? Our values and our attitudes will reflect whether we are filled with light or with darkness.
3. True or **false**? When Jesus spoke of our “treasure,” He was speaking only of money, not time, talents, or other resources.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one best answer for each question.

4. Why did Jesus say disciples should not spend their energy on earthly treasures?
 - a. Things on earth are not important.
 - b. Earthly treasures will always eventually depreciate or be stolen.**
 - c. Wealth is sinful.
 - d. Only the poor can be saved.
5. What does the “eye” often represent in scripture?
 - a. Our mind**
 - b. Our work
 - c. Our intuition
 - d. God’s Word
6. When Jesus said a disciple cannot serve two masters, which master beside God did He mention?
 - a. Status
 - b. Money**
 - c. Work
 - d. Family

7. Which items on the following list distract you from serving Jesus? (*choose all that apply; answers may vary*)

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Anxieties | Education |
| Plans for the future | Status |
| Work activities | Relationships with friends |
| Family relationships | Ambitions |
| Possessions | Addictions |



From the above list, can you identify any attitude or activity that Jesus, as your Master, forbids for your benefit? What should you do if one of these begins to distract you from your relationship with God?



Thank God for teaching us about values and for calling us to love and serve Him above all else. Ask Him if He wants you to rearrange your priorities and then obey Him however He leads you to do so.



Going Deeper

1. “*Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*” Look at your checkbook or credit card statements and answer the question, “According to where my treasure is, where is my heart?” _____

2. What we do with our money and our life show our “philosophy of life,” or “world view.” Are you trying to lead a Christian lifestyle with a secular world view? Explain. _____

3. What is meant by an eye full of light or an eye filled with darkness? _____

4. As you examine your values, concerns and priorities, what areas conflict with Matthew 6:33? _____

5. Why is the Lord displeased with “mister in-between,” those who are neither “hot nor cold”?

6. Do you have a plan to become single-minded and let your Christian lifestyle be based on a biblical world view? If so, how? _____

7. What are your attitudes? What are your values? How do they align with those of Jesus that we see in the Sermon on the Mount? _____
