



Treasure What Is Good

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21).

Treasure is defined by the Merriam Webster Dictionary as “something of value that is hidden or kept in a safe place.” Whatever treasure means to you, it is your great security. Your treasure is what makes you feel confident in the world. Is it Jesus, \$300 million in the bank, an impregnable castle, or a special makeup that makes you look younger? With your treasure, you are at ease and confident. Without it, you are unsettled and in distress.

When I was young, I dreamed of finding a treasure chest of gold. I knew that if I found it, I’d be rich and never have to work again! I’d be free of all the worries in life—food, shelter, and comfort. I wouldn’t have to get up in the morning and work all day because I’d be secure and at ease in the promise of my treasure. Millions of adults still live for this dream.

In Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, He addressed the promise and security of worldly treasure when He advised the crowd, *“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 neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal”* (Matthew 6:19-20).

Jesus was saying that the treasures of earth can be taken from us—we can be robbed one way or another of its security. Not only that, they WILL be taken from us, for just as *“we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either”* (1 Timothy 6:5b-7). He was warning us that we can only be truly confident and at ease in the treasure of Heaven, which is the Gospel of Christ.

Is Jesus speaking out against wealth here? Is it wrong for us to have money? No. There are many Believers who have material possessions, and it is not wrong for us to make money or have wealth. However, it is wrong for us to make TREASURE of that money or substance. Because if we treasure the things of this world, then our heart will be secure in the world, and we will be confident in its promise.

“The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil” (Matthew 12:35). If we treasure things of the world, then our heart will “dwell” on evil. When we speak and act, we are bringing out evil—putting the potential of our treasure to effect. To put another way, we are withdrawing from our “bank account” and making payment. You can only pay with what you have in your account. If all you have in the vault is Dollars, then you cannot withdraw and pay with Yuan.

All the wealth and treasure of the world is futility and decay, for we cannot take it with us when we die, and none of it can pass into eternity. When we treasure the world, we are buying its rust and selling its moths. When we speak, we speak its decay and death. When we act, we act in *“immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these”* (Galatians 5:19b-21a).

When we treasure the things of Heaven, we “bring out” the light and life of Christ and His Gospel to the world. When we act, we act in *“love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control”* (Galatians 5:22b-23a).

As Believers, our treasure is truly valuable, kept safe for us in Heaven. Let us draw out of our good treasure what is good—the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.