



Bottom-line Realities

Matthew 6:19-21

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

Most of us live in a false reality. We rarely think about our values, passions, and priorities. And we rarely think about our death. But we should!

In the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 5-7 is the greatest sermon ever preached. It is Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. It is the most profound, most practical explanation of how we live committed lives for God. Jesus tells us how to live, think, behave, pray, and so much more. Within this sermon, He speaks in plain talk about things that last and things that don't. Our Lord tells us about life and things that really matter.

In Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus reveals **three bottom-line realities** that we all must know:

I. Material things are temporary (verse 19)

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth"

1. Material things are consumed *"where moth ... destroy"*
2. Material things are corruptible *"where ... rust destroy"*
3. Material things are confiscated *"where thieves break in and steal"*

II. Spiritual things are lasting (verse 20)

"But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven"

1. Spiritual things are indestructible *"where moth ... do not destroy"*
2. Spiritual things are imperishable *"where ... rust do not destroy"*
3. Spiritual things are impenetrable *"where thieves do not break in ... steal."*

III. Eternal things are chosen (verses 21)

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

1. Where do you invest your life? *"where your treasure is"*
2. Where do you place your heart? *"there your heart will be also."*

Your Response:

1. Since God gave you everything you have, are you investing in His money into earthly things, or in things that last for eternity
2. Tell the truth: What is your source of joy and passion? If God is number one with your heart, does it show in your check book and datebook? Do an analysis of your spending and time use. Can you find proof in your check register and your calendar of your commitment to God? Are you giving God a tip or a tithe? Do an analysis of your time use.
3. Do you just eat, sleep, and play for yourself? Do you have ministry and service for God's Kingdom as well as acts of compassion in your life?
4. Think about practical ways that you can liberate yourself from materialism. Write them down and work out a plan. See Proverbs 3:9-10 as you write your plan.
5. How can we leave our children a true heritage beyond money? What are you teaching your children by your examples, values, and attitudes?

Resources:

The Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn
Money, Possessions, and Eternity by Randy Alcorn
The Daily Study Bible Mathew by William Barclay
The Gospel of Matthew by William Hendricksen
The Interpretation of St. Matthew's Gospel by R.C.H. Lenski