

Stewarding Our Treasure

Aron Osborne

Our heart will be where our treasure is.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. – Matthew 6:19-24

1. Choosing the Lasting “Store” House

“Jesus said more about money than about any other single thing because, when it comes to a man’s real nature, money is of first importance. Money is an exact index to a man’s true character.”¹

One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me. – Mark 10:21

Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of heaven . . . Woe to you rich, for you have received your consolation. – Luke 6:20, 24

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God. – Luke 18:25

A person’s life does not consist in the possessions that he has. – Luke 12:15

Sell your possessions and give alms; provide yourselves with purses in heaven. -Luke 12:33

¹ Richard Halverson, quoted in Money Possessions and Eternity, pg. 15.

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. – Matthew 13:44

Jesus saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them.” – Luke 21:2, 3

“It is not accurate either to say, ‘Saving money is biblical’ or ‘Saving money is unbiblical.’ It may be either, depending upon the reasons.”²

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II. Two Treasure Imperatives

1. Do not lay up treasures on Earth

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal...” – Matthew 6:19

Earthly Stuff Won't Last!

2. Lay Up Treasure in Heaven

“...but lay up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.” – Matt. 6:20

“The act of giving is a vivid reminder that it’s all about God, not about us. It’s saying I am not the point. *He* is the point. He does not exist for me. I exist for Him... When I give (something) away...the magic spell is broken. My mind clears, and I recognize God as owner, myself as servant, and other people as intended beneficiaries of what God has entrusted to

² Randy Alcorn, MPE, pg. 334

me...Only giving breaks me free from the gravitational hold of money and possessions. Giving shifts me to a new center of gravity-heaven.”³

3. Know Where Your Treasure is and You’ve Found Your Heart!

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

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III. Closing

“We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches in Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, *their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity* on their part...they begged us earnestly for the favor of taking part in relief of the saints...But as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge – see that you excel in this act of grace also...the point is this; whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound in you, so that have all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians 8:1-2,4,7, 9:6-8

1. Thank You!

2. Why Does This Matter?

Happy is he who is gracious to the poor. – Proverbs 14:21

He who is generous will be blessed. – Proverbs 22:9

3. Encouragement

³ Randy Alcorn, The Treasure Principle Study Guide, pg. 61.