

Different On Purpose: Eternal Return on Investment Matthew 6:19-24

Passage

Matthew 6:19-24 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.

Earthly Investments Are Ultimately Unstable

Assertion

- Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...

Possible Objection

- Is Jesus saying money and possessions are bad? Are we supposed to ignore financial responsibility?

- 1 Timothy 6:17-19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Application

- Set aside a specific, consistent percentage of our income (or time) for Kingdom purposes:
 - Supporting gospel ministry
 - Meeting real needs
 - Investing in discipleship
- Why It Matters: What we cannot keep forever should never become what we live for today.

Our Heart Follows Our Investments

Assertion

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

Possible Objection

- I thought my heart determines what I value, not the other way around.

- Matthew 13:44 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.

- Choose one area where our heart feels spiritually cold, and begin investing in it:
 - Give toward missions → grow a heart for the lost
 - Serve people → grow compassion

- Spend time in the Word → grow love for God
- Why It Matters: Our treasure pulls our heart.

Our Vision Determines Our Direction

Assertion

- The eye is the lamp of the body...

Possible Objection

- This sounds abstract. What does 'healthy eye' vs. 'bad eye' actually mean?
- 1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Application

- Do a "vision audit" this week:
 - Reduce input that feeds materialism (constant ads, comparison-driven media)
 - Increase input that centers eternity (Scripture, prayer, Christ-centered teaching)
- Why It Matters: What captures our eyes can capture our life.

We Cannot Serve Two Masters

Assertion

- No one can serve two masters... You cannot serve God and money.

Possible Objection

- Can't I just balance both? Love God and also pursue financial success?
- Joshua 24:15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Application

- Establish one concrete habit that declares God as our master:
 - Give first, not last
 - Pray over financial decisions before making them
 - Choose obedience even when it costs financially
- Why It Matters: We can use money, but don't let money use us.

Conclusion

What did we invest in that made it here to heaven?