

Materialism

Lakewood Family Church | Pastor Jonathan L. Vorce | June 10, 2026

Matthew 6:19-24

INTRODUCTION

- What are you living for? Where is your treasure?
- Jesus continues to expound on the "Righteousness of the Kingdom" — specifically how it shapes “our relationship with God” and the things of this world.
- In this passage — and the one on anxiety that follows — He makes it crystal clear:

“We must get our priorities right about material things, or our walk with God will suffer.”

[To keep our priorities straight, Jesus taught several principles and illustrations which should govern our lives...]

I. LAY UP YOUR TREASURES IN HEAVEN (Mt 6:19-21)

“First, choose heaven over earth.”

A. On earth, moth and rust destroy. Thieves break in and steal. Material things are perishable and vulnerable.

1. But in heaven? Neither moth nor rust destroys. Thieves cannot touch it.
2. Our treasures are “imperishable” — reserved and guarded by God Himself (**1Pe 1:3-4; 1Pe 3:4-5**).

B. “Why does this matter so much? Because... *“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

1. If your treasure is on earth, your heart is headed for disappointment. The things you love will decay. The joys you chase can vanish in a moment — stolen, burned, or gone.
2. But when your treasure is in heaven, your heart stays secure.
 - a. Your inheritance is incorruptible, undefiled, and unfading.

- b. Nothing can take it from you — it is kept by the power of God through faith.
- 3. With treasures in heaven, the storms of earth will not devastate you. Just ask the Hebrew Christians (**He 10:32-34**).

- a. When we build on these words of Jesus, the storms of life will not shake us (**Mt 7:24-27**).

C. So how do we actually lay up treasure in heaven?

- 1. First, become a child of God — a joint-heir with Christ (**Ro 8:16-17**).
- 2. Then, use what God has given you to bless others.
 - a. Jesus told the rich young ruler: *“Sell what you have, give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven”* (**Mt 19:21**).
 - b. He commanded His disciples to sell and give alms — a treasure that does not fail (**Lk 12:33-34**).
 - c. Paul charged the rich to be generous... (**1Ti 6:17-19**).

- ◆ The importance of this generosity leads directly into Jesus’ next illustration.

II. THE LAMP OF THE BODY IS THE EYE (**Mt 6:22-23**)

A. Jesus uses a powerful metaphor:

- 1. The body represents your soul — your inner man.
- 2. The eye represents the gaze of your heart.
 - a. A “good” eye is single and undivided — focused fully on God.
 - b. A “bad” or evil eye is envious and covetous.

B. When your heart is single — loving God first — your whole life is filled with “light”: goodness, righteousness, and truth (**Eph 5:8-10**).

- 1. But when your heart is divided and covetous, your soul fills with “darkness”: selfishness, wickedness, and lies.

- ◆ This is why we must be rich toward God and free from covetousness (see also [Lk 12:15, 21](#)).

III. YOU CANNOT SERVE BOTH GOD AND MAMMON ([Mt 6:24](#))

A. No one can serve two masters. A master demands total loyalty — and God will share His glory with no one ([Exodus 34:14](#)).

1. Mammon — wealth, money, material prosperity — becomes an idol when it takes first place. It turns us into idolaters ([Eph 5:5](#); [Col 3:5](#)).

B. One must choose:

1. Will you worship the true God, or chase a false one?

CONCLUSION

- Jesus is calling us today to choose God over Mammon!
 - Mammon decays. It steals. It blinds us and makes us selfish.
 - God secures our treasure forever — and shapes us into kind, righteous, generous people.
- So, I ask you this morning: Where is your treasure?
 - Where is your heart?
 - What is the condition of your heart?
- Make your choice today. Lay up treasure in heaven. Serve God only.