



Matthew 6:19-24

How should a Believer view Money:

Myths

More money will make me happy
Money is evil
If someone is wealthy, they must be greedy
I'll be generous once I have more
Debt is normal and harmless

SIXTEEN of Jesus' thirty-eight parables use money/possessions as a primary backdrop (the Rich Fool, Rich Man and Lazarus, Unforgiving Servant, Workers in the Vineyard, Hidden Treasure, Pearl of Great Price, Lost Coin, etc.)

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Money... It's a matter of priorities

Do not store up FOR YOURSELVES...

The ancient Greek literally says *do not treasure for yourself treasures on earth*.

Our treasure is determined by what we set OUR HEARTS on.

Rich Young Ruler- "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

Jesus- *If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."* ²² When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth. Matthew 19:21-22

Whatever you consider to be important (to you) will receive your attention and determine what you invest in. It will eventually STEAL your affections.

¹² If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. ¹⁴ If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames. 1 Corinthians 3:12-15

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Jesus drew the conclusion that you can only have your TREASURE (and your heart) in one place; we CANNOT store up treasure for ourselves on earth and in heaven at the same time.

It's a matter of focus

²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

MONEY is often about security and provision. It's about who/what you are going to trust to provide for you and meet your needs.

If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light.

If you have the right FOCUS then you will see life as you should.

"The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are shrewder in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light." "I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings." Luke 16:8-9

Jesus is encouraging us to live our life with Day 1 after our DEATH in mind.

²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

If you get the priorities of life wrong, all of LIFE will be wrong.

It's the nature of a master.

²⁴ "No one (EXCEPT ME) can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

The nature of a master is "NOT TO SHARE."

Jesus says, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand." Matthew 12:25

If you try to hold on to both, you will keep NEITHER.

So How Do We Check Our Affections?

Keep developing an ETERNAL perspective

Practice the First Fruit- TITHE

Give to those who NEED it.