

## **Matthew 6:19–21**

### **Sermon Questions**

1. How might “a good man leave an inheritance to his children’s children” (Pro.13:22), without “laying up for [himself] treasures on earth?” (Mat. 6:19)
2. Since Jesus commanded us not to store up treasures here on earth, should we then not work? See Col. 3:23-24; 2 Thes. 3:10 and 1 Tim. 5:8.
3. Being rich is a most enviable position according to the world’s standard. According to Matthew 19:24, what is Christ’s take on being rich?
4. Read 1 Tim. 6:17-19 and answer the following questions.
  - A. What are the rich not to set their hopes on?
  - B. What are the rich to set their hopes on?
  - C. According to verse 18 what are the rich supposed to do? What is their responsibility?
  - D. As they are being generous and ready to share, where are they storing up treasures at?
  - E. What are the rich to take hold of? Explain what this means.
5. According to Jesus (Mat. 6:21) what are the main differences between people who are storing up treasures here on earth and those who are storing up treasures in heaven? Ex: What if there are two people with equal material wealth? How might it be possible for one to be storing up treasure on earth while the other is storing up treasures in heaven?
6. Read 2 Peter 3:10-13. What’s going to happen to the heavens and the earth? In light of this what kind of people ought we to

be? According to Peter what should our focus be on in this life?

7. Jesus says in Mat. 6:21 “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” What impact should this statement have on the way Christians make decisions regarding what to do with our time and resources?

8. Consider the two greatest commandments (Mat. 22:36-40) and the Golden rule (Mat. 7:12):

F. How might material prosperity interfere with us doing these?

G. How might material prosperity help us do these better?

9. Read 1 John 2:15-17. How is it possible to enjoy this world and all it has to offer without loving it?

10. In 1702, the Puritan Minister Cotton Mather made the following observation about early colonial America,

“Religion (godliness) brought forth prosperity, and the daughter destroyed (devoured) the mother.”

Early America was founded on Christian principles. These Christian principles produced prosperity. However the people of America forsook godliness and pursued the prosperity it produced.

H. How might godliness produce prosperity? For instance, consider the creation mandate (God honoring, heterosexual, lifelong, monogamous covenant relationships

with the emphasis of ruling, reproducing and being responsible with God's resources).

- I. How might prosperity contribute to the destruction of godliness?