

Questions

1. What is an idol of the heart? What is deceptive about our idols?
2. What Mammon are you most tempted to idol after? What can tempt you towards anxiety or anger? That might just be your Mammon.
3. What are "treasures on earth"? What are "treasures in heaven"? Read 1 Tim. 6:17-19, what more do we learn about these things:
4. What is it "here" that you can tempt to make your treasure? What do you most prize/value? What gives you a sense of worth or security? What consumes your attention and pulls at your emotions? These things might just be your earthly treasures.
5. Do the things Stuart mentioned as "heavenly treasure" get you excited? Are you impassioned about the causes of God and the people of God?
6. Are you more stingy or generous with your possessions? In what area of your life, or with what, can you be tempted towards stinginess?
7. Are you greedy or content with what you have? Is there something off limits if someone asks to use or borrow it? Is there something even off limits if God were to make known that He had use of it?

Recommended Book

Bigney, Brad. *Gospel Treason*
Keller, Timothy. *Counterfeit Gods*

www.gbclorton.com/sermons

The King's Manifesto

The Sermon on the Mount

Whom Shall You Serve?

Matthew 6:19-24

Stuart McCray, Associate Pastor

October 10, 2021

Kingdom citizens are to have an unwavering loyalty to the King and his Kingdom.

✓ Jesus provides two diagnostics to evaluate where your loyalty lies, with God or with anything else.

The Call for Loyalty (v.24)

"Mammon" was an Aramaic word that meant "something in which one trusts". Jesus slightly morphs this word to personify it. In other words, Jesus says, "what your heart trusts in, other than God, is your functional false god, your idol. Jesus is creating a showdown here, God vs. Mammon.

An idol is anything that takes the place of God in your heart. It's anything you *love* more than God, *trust* more than God, *fear* more than God, or *desire* more than God.

Disloyalty to God occurs when you find your identity, value, worth, security, hope in things and in people and not in God.

"Heavenly treasure" is certainly personal salvation. But it's also *everything* that can be done to the praise and glory of God alone.

When good things are made ultimate things, they become the ruling interests in our hearts; they become our counterfeit gods.

Where the treasures of this earth hold sway over your heart, God does not.

Where Are You Investing? (vv.19-21)

"Treasures on earth" can certainly be money and possessions, but it's more fundamentally than that. It's the things here that you prize, value, and that gives you a sense of worth or security. They consume your attention and pull at your emotions.

How Do You View Your Resources (vv.22-23)

"Bad eye" or "evil eye" in the ancient world was an idiom for greediness, jealousy, and stinginess, especially in relation to material possessions. (e.g. Matt. 20:15; Deut. 15:9; Prov. 23:6)

In context "healthy eye" a contrast to "bad eye". So, it means something like, generosity, contentment, and openhanded. That said, the word "healthy" here literally means "singleness", like "single-minded".