

Series: Sermon on the Mount

Lesson #26

Title: Your Heavenly Father Knoweth

Text: Matthew 6: 24-34

Date: November 14, 2009

Place: SGBC, New Jersey

Our Lord loves a cheerful giver. He had just spoken of alms-giving—the believer’s privilege of providing the necessities of the poor.

Sadly, due the sinfulness of every believer’s flesh, when we hear a word concerning “giving”, we are far too prone to act as if what we have is our own. Knowing the utter sinfulness of our flesh, our Lord graciously gives the believer a word of warning against covetousness, against worldliness.

Matthew 6: 21: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Matthew 6: 23: If thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness.

Illustration: When we set our affection on something below, proportionate to the joy we get from it, we also get fear and worry that we will lose it.

Our Lord reminds us, as our faithful Savior, as he did in the parable of the sower—remember the seed that fell among thorns.

Mark 4: 18: And these are they...such as hear the word, 19: And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

When we hear these words of warnings, the self-righteous man thinks himself to be above these things. But those who have been given hearts to know what they are in their flesh, see themselves as altogether covetous, worldly.

But let me give you something that will help you.

When you hear our Lords' warnings, or you read statements that sound as if they are conditions, as a believer, heed the warnings, but at the same time, read those statements remembering the promises of our Lord.

WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE WILL YOUR HEART BE ALSO.

Notice he does not say, "where your heart is, that is where your treasure will be", but he says, "where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be."

2 Corinthians 8:9: For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Are you covetous in your flesh? What is the strength of our inner man? Christ was obedient on your behalf, even unto death.

BY HIS OBEDIENCE

Christ Jesus obeyed God perfectly, even this law of covetousness.

Luke 4: 2: Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. 3: And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. 4: And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. 5: And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6: And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. 7: If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. 8: And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

OBEDIENCE, EVEN UNTO THE DEATH OF THE CROSS

Pertaining to this particular law of covetousness, as all the law of God which we broke, God made him sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God

in him. Even all the sin of covetousness, of all his people was laid on him.

Hebrews 1: 3:...when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

By faith in Christ who fulfilled the law for us, we have perfectly fulfilled the law of God. If we take Romans 3 in its context that is exactly what Romans 3: 31 declares:

Romans 3:31: Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

For us who believe, Christ is our treasure in heaven. We have an

I Peter 1: 4:...an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

Colossians 2: 2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; 3: In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

THE LIGHT OF THE BODY IS THE EYE.

Matthew 6: 22: The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

The Lord says to you and I believer:

Matthew 13:16: But blessed *are* your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

John 8:12: Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but SHALL HAVE the light of life.

HE IS THE LIGHT THAT FILLS OUR WHOLE BODY.

Matthew 6: 22:...if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body SHALL BE full of light.

He speaks of the heart, the eye and the body. When the Spirit of God gives us a new heart, eyes to see, fills our bodies with the Light of Christ, we have a new Master.

CHRIST IS OUR MASTER, OUR LORD, OUR SOVEREIGN.

Matthew 6: 24: No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Romans 8: 14: For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under

grace....17: But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18: Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Christ is now the believers Treasure, our Light and our Master.

Matthew 6: 25: Therefore I say unto you,...Therefore—because Christ has made himself the Treasure of your heart. Therefore—because Christ has shined his Light into your soul. Therefore—because Christ has taken up dominion in you.

Matthew 6: 25: Therefore I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.

We have no need to worry over our needs.

1. Did our anxious thought put us in Christ before the world began? God our Father did it by his free grace.
2. Did our distressing thoughts redeem us from sin, death and hell? Christ the Son of God did it freely for us.
3. God was not even in any of our thoughts, yet the Holy Spirit blew where it would and set our thoughts on Christ.

V25:...Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Our life used to be about nothing more than our belly and our flesh. But now...

Phippians 1:21: For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain....3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

1. You who have tasted the Bread from heaven and tasted drank the Water of life, clothed in the king's garments, you have LIFE ETERNAL--you can answer that question—YES! There is much more to life than meat and raiment.

CONCERNING TEMPORAL FOOD

Matthew 6: 26: Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

You fathers and mothers who have domesticated pets, you feed those pets don't you? Would you ever think of feeding your pets and not feeding your children? Who feeds the fowls of the air? YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER.

Psalm 145:15: The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. 16: Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

Do you think YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER will feed all his pets, and not feed you, HIS SON, HIS daughter? **Are ye not much better than they?**

Not only do we not need to worry about our needs, but we it won't do us any good to do so.

Matthew 6: 27: Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

He just told us that we can't make one hair white or one hair black. He just told us that the protection of your earthly treasures is out of your control—a little moth will eat it; rust will eat, thieves will break through and steal it. Worry won't stop it. Will worry make any food we eat nourish our bodies? Can our worry, our anxiousness, add one minute to our life.

Psalm 31:15: My times *are* in thy hand:

CONCERNING CLOTHING

Matthew 6: 28: And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30: Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

Who clothed Solomon in all those beautiful garments? God did. Yet, all Solomon's finely woven garments were made by men's hands. God created the materials they were made of, but men polluted those garments when they touched them with their own hands.

Consider the lilies of the field

They don't clothe themselves, God does. The lilies of the field are his direct creation. If he clothes something as insignificant as lilies of the field what about you?

Who made you a new creature in Christ? God did.

Like the king's daughter, the believer is all glorious within, our garments are of the gold of Christ's righteousness. Gold he wrought in the furnace of affliction himself. The new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. The holy garments of the High Priest are the garments of his sons, that we may minister in the priests office.

Isaiah 61:10: I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels.

Like those lilies of the field—you are in the wilderness—but God arrayed you in garments better than anything Solomon ever had. Don't worry your pretty little head, he will provide you with a t-shirt and shoes for your feet.

Matthew 6: 31: Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32: (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

I love how the Lord keeps repeating this: **your heavenly Father knoweth.**

Therefore, take no anxious thought—your heavenly Father will feed you. Therefore, take no thought—your heavenly Father will clothe you. Therefore take no thought, your heavenly Father knoweth you have need of these things.

Romans 8:32: He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Matthew 6: 33: But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Acts 28:31...”the kingdom of God”....are “those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ”

Romans 14:17: For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Have you found the treasure hidden in the field? Sell all you have and buy that field. Have you found the pearl of great price? Trade everything for Christ.

Provide for each other—for the poor of this world—if those selfish thoughts creep up—Having these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, separating ourselves from that heart of unbelief in the fear of the Lord. God will add all the lesser things you need.

Matthew 6: 34: Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Give your entire attention to setting your affection on things above right now. Don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will provide for you tomorrow in the face of every evil just as he is doing today.

Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as he has the past
Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still, my soul, the wind and waves still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below

AMEN!