

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Storing Treasures in Heaven

AM Sermon: Tom Betti

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Eddie 4 and Amelia, Deb Betti, the Morigeau family, Josiah, Helen Spicer, Emily Hatley, Bill and Peggy.

Traveling/Working: Tina Crawford, Steve and Abby traveling beginning tomorrow. Eddie and Susan (Dec 2-12)

Radio Programs: Listen to "Searching the scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew 6:21 (KJV)

Wisdom for Today: "Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith." Proverbs 15:16 (KJV)

PM Sermon: Charles Nordstrom

Attendance Last Sunday -

For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

EVANGELIST

Bill Beebe (907) 841-9261 bill@churchofchristwasilla.com



God's Plan of Salvation
HearRomans 10:17
BelieveMark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Remain Faithful.....Matt 24:13; Rev 2:10; James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES
Sunday:
Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 5PM
Wednesday:
Bible Study: 7PM
OFFICE HOURS
Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!
The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773
Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us

Storing Treasures in Heaven

By: Bill Beebe

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” **Matthew 6:19-21 (KJV)**

Many of us have read this passage a number of times. In addition, we have heard it read in class and used in sermons. There have been a number of lessons taught using these verses as their foundation. But how many of us have ever stopped to really think about them? Just exactly what was Jesus teaching with this particular passage? While there are several things we could study from these verses, there are two questions I would like for us to consider today. First, what kind of treasures are these? And second, how do we lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven?

This passage is a part of what we often call “The Sermon on the Mount”. In fact, these three verses are a part of a section that begins in Matthew 6:1 and continues through the end of the chapter. Here Jesus teaches us about hypocrisy. Beginning in Matthew 6:1 He teaches about people who do things for the praise that they get from other men and not for the glory of God. He begins by pointing out those who give their alms. They give in a way that the people will know and praise them for giving. They even sound a trumpet before they give (verse 2). Jesus points out that they have their reward. He goes on to tell us to do this in a way that is secret so that God, who sees the secret things we do, may reward us openly. He then carries this same thought into our prayer life. We should not pray in a way that will get praise from men, but when we pray we are to do it privately. In fact, Jesus tells us to go into our closet and pray privately. And once again He says that God, who sees the secret things we do, will reward us openly. Then Jesus tells us not to use vain repetitions in order to lengthen our prayers, because God already knows what we need before we ask him. Matthew then records for us what is commonly referred to as the “Lords Prayer”. After prayers, Jesus changes the subject to fasting. His comments are consistent, don’t fast (or pretend to fast, as some of those He is talking about do) to be seen of men so that they will give you praise. But take care of your appearance so that you do not look as if you are fasting, because God who sees our secret lives will reward us publicly.

Once Jesus has discussed giving alms, praying and fasting; He tells us to lay up our treasures in Heaven and not on Earth. He doesn’t tell us what these treas-

go into the house of the Lord.” Psalm 122:1

ures are or how we go about laying them up in Heaven, but He has hinted at them throughout this entire chapter. The things people treasured then are often the things we treasure today. Clothing, gold, silver and praise of men. Throughout this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus contrasts a person who is doing things in a very public way in order to get praise from men with the person who does the same thing secretly. Those who are doing these things (giving alms, praying and fasting) in a very public way get their reward immediately from men. Jesus says “They have their reward” (verse 2). They do what they do to show off their riches, they are laying up their treasures on earth but the moth will destroy their fancy clothing, and the gold and silver will eventually go away or be stolen. And when this happens, the praise of men will go with them. Then they will have nothing left.

But if we do things to glorify God, and not to get praise from men, our treasures will last for eternity. When we give with a gracious heart and not to be praised by men, God will see and will reward us and that treasure will be laid up in heaven. Consider Jesus’ statements about the “Widows Mites” in Mark 12:41-44. When we pray earnestly our prayers will be heard by God and answered, James 5:16. Prayers that are heard by God are a treasure that only Christians have (1 Peter 3:12, John 9:31). John, in Revelation 5:8 and Revelation 8:3-4 wrote that the prayers of the Saints was incense to God. They are stored in golden vials and censers. Other things that we can store in Heaven are our works after we become Christians. James tells us that our works compliment our faith (James 2:14-20). In Matthew 16:27 we are told that we will be rewarded according to our works. Then in Matthew 25:31-46 Jesus clearly tells us that our good works will be remembered.

So instead of buying fancy clothes or storing gold and silver here on earth where they will not last, we should pray, give to the needy, and care for our neighbors. These treasures will be stored for us in heaven where they will not rust away and can not be stolen. And where our treasures are so will be our heart. Be sure you treasure the right things, and put them where they will last for eternity.



Schedule of Events

Men’s Meeting next Sunday, December 12, 2021, immediately following AM services. This is an important meeting and all the men are encouraged to attend.