

Scripture reading:

Matthew 6:19-21;

19-Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20;

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal: 21;

For where your treasure is there will your heart be also.

1-Here Jesus forbids the laying up of treasures on the earth; that is, piling up of worldly wealth for worldly purposes.

2-Laying up treasures in heaven is a positive precept.

1-Our wealth must be consecrated to God and and used as his work demands.

2-Wealth used for doing good is treasure laid up in heaven.

3-"Where thy treasure is will thy heart be also" states:

1-A universal truth for a man's heart will be always upon what he treasures most.

2-If his treasure is in heaven, heaven will have his heart.

1-The all absorbing desire of humanity is happiness:

1-A depraved heart naturally seeks this in the world.

2-Money especially which, "answereth all things," is the exponent of this world's good.

3-Because of this there is a feverish desire to accumulate money.

4-Wealth comes to be loved and laid up because it is loved.

2-Making proper provisions for the future is not here condemned:

Because in his system of nature, God commends this prudence.

1-God has so ordered the seasons that one harvest yields enough to serve us until the next.  
Genesis 8:22;

While the earth remaineth, seed-time, and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

3-God impresses his providence upon the instincts of animals.

1-Proverbs 30:24-28; Solomon said;

24-There are four things which are little upon the earth, but they are made exceeding wise.

1-25;

The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer.

2-26;

The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their house in the rocks.

3-27;

The locust have nothing, yet go they, forth all of them by bands;

4-28;

The spider taketh hold with her hands, yet is she in king's palaces.

4-Hoarding is here deprecated as sinful and pernicious. Actually;

The hope of riches are most delusive.

1-Riches do not give immunity from anxiety.

1-The moth, the rust, and the thief, continually haunt the dreams of the wealth lover.

2-The rich man: Luke 12:16-20.

Finds more anxiety in preserving than he found in acquiring his wealth.

1-Luke 12:21;

So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

3-Men are killed for money:

1-Men rob banks and kill the employees.

2-Because of the reward, \$5000.00, Men are killed as they rob banks. Many were killed in the years of depression just pass.

5-In face of this teaching, to what is man entitled?

1-He is entitled to his food, his raiment, and habitation for himself and those depending upon him.

2-He is entitled to a provision against sickness and old age.

3-He is entitled to give his family an education and a start in life.

4-When man has done this;

God will himself add to all this the spiritual reward of well-doing.

6-Man's problem with the rest is to secure the maximum good.

1-To this end he will study the needs of men.

1-This may prove troublesome; but it is the business of the Steward of God.

2-He will also study the best means of meeting the needs of men.

1-God will not approve a slovenly disbursement of money.

