DEEPER LIFE BIBLE CHURCH NL | SUNDAY SERMON | 23 NOVEMBER 2025 HOW TO LAY YOUR TREASURE IN HEAVEN

Matthew 6:19-21

Bible Reading: Matthew 6:19-34

The words in our text are the sayings of Jesus. He tells His listeners what not to do, why they should not do it, and what to do instead. This message remains relevant for the church today.

Treasures are very precious, costly items. In the Bible treasures are associated with riches (Eccl 2:8-18), opportunities and privileges (Heb. 11:24-26), or possessions (Prov. 15:16). In our time they could include your talents, time, gifts, abilities, ambitions, money, etc. The phrase "your treasure" implies that you have something of great value given to you by divine providence that others do not have – in some form and to a certain degree different from others. This is what you are called to lay up in heaven. Like a smart investor, it is a decision that will yield immeasurable dividends for you both now and in eternity.

PROFITS OF LAYING YOUR TREASURES IN HEAVEN

There are profits in laying your treasures in heaven. **One,** security (vv. 19-21). While treasures laid on earth can be lost through corruption, depreciation or through theft, treasures laid up in heaven are incorruptible, untouchable and permanent (1 Pet 1:3,4;5:4). In other words, what you gain by investing in heaven *cannot* be lost (Lk 10:41,42). **Two**, stability. Your heart will be where your treasure is. Investing in heaven makes you live with spiritual impact. It aligns your priorities and affection with that of God rather than with the fleeting desires of this world (Heb. 6:18,19). **Three,** spiritual clarity. Focusing on heavenly treasure gives you spiritual discernment and clarity. Your perspective to life changes, you make wiser choices, and you walk without the darkness of greed and envy (Lk 12:16-21; 2 Pet 2:15,16). **Four**, freedom from serving money (v. 24). You become free from the tyranny of wealth. You are liberated from the rat-race for money, from constant striving, scheming, comparison, competition and grasping for more money (Prov. 28:20,22). **Five**, peace, confidence and rest (vv. 25-34). As you trust in God's care, He lifts the burden of anxiety and He will meet your needs.

HINDRANCES TO LAYING YOUR TREASURE IN HEAVEN

What are the things that could hinder you from laying your treasure in heaven? **One**, spiritual blindness (vv. 22,23,33,34; 1 Cor 15:19). This is when you fail to prioritise God's kingdom, or when your focus is on the present rather than on eternity (Col 3:1,2). When you see life through the lens of greed, pride and envy. When the eye is clouded by worldliness, it becomes impossible to discern things of eternal worth (Gen 25:29-34; Heb. 12:16,17). **Two**, a double heart or divided loyalty (v. 24). A divided heart will lead to half-hearted devotion to God (1 Kings 11:4; 15:3; 18:21; Jam 4:4). **Three**, unbelief, worry and anxiety (vv. 25-32). Doubting if God will still be there tomorrow or worrying about daily needs will distract you from heavenly pursuits (Phil 4:6). **Four**, deceitfulness of riches (Matt 13:22). Riches could give a false sense of security and chokes the spiritual life by consuming your attention (Ecc 5:10; Prov 23:5). **Five**, spiritual coldness (Matt 24:12; Rev 2:4,5). When your heart is cold, prayer becomes a mechanical, scriptures become dry and scriptural discipline is abandoned. Without repentance, this leads to backsliding and the loss of your heavenly treasure.

PATTERN FOR LAYING YOUR TREASURES IN HEAVEN

How do you lay treasures in heaven? **One,** give your heart to God (Prov. 23:26). This is the foundation. Your treasure and your heart naturally follow each other (Matt 6:21). **Two,** seek God's kingdom *first* (Matt 6:33). The question in your mind should be "how can I please God at this time?" Make daily righteous living and doing God's will the priority in your life and be ready to give up all to fulfil His will (Matt 13:44-46). This will happen when you structure your life around prayer, mediation and total obedience to God's word (Ezra 7:10). **Three,** invest in things of eternal value (Matt 6:1-4; 19-21). Invest in evangelism, financial giving, visiting and helping the needy, outreach, edification, spending time to prepare the church venue, etc. (Matt 25:34-40; Jam 1:27). **Four,** cultivate a fervent heart (Lev 6:13; Rom 12:11). Prioritise a fervent prayer and devotional life. Purge yourself from everything that hinders you from laying treasures in heaven. Reject greed, envy, and worldly comparison. Guard what you watch, pursue and admire. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." (Jn 13:17).