

Introduction: Are you “clearing cobwebs” or “killing spiders”?

The root problem in priority living according to Jesus is _____.

Matthew 6:1-18

¹⁹Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)

²²The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

Matthew 6:22-23 (NIV)

²⁴No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

Matthew 6:24 (NIV)

Two Motives



Two Treasures



Two Eyes



Two Masters



Summary: Do not allow the pursuit of material things to thwart your spiritual development.

Question: How can we live in a material world without becoming materialistic?

²⁴"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. ²⁵Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"

Matthew 6:24-27 (NIV)

²⁸"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them."

Matthew 6:28-32 (NIV)

³³"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Matthew 6:33-34 (NIV)

The Symptom: Anxiety is the mark of a life preoccupied with material things.

The Explanation: Stop your preoccupation with material things because...

1. It's **short-sighted** – Matthew 6:25b
2. It's **illogical** – Matthew 6:28-30
3. It's **unprofitable** – Matthew 6:27
4. It's **disgraceful to God** – Matthew 6:30-32

The Promise: Matthew 6:33-34

If you will pursue knowing Christ and making Him known as your first priority, He will meet all your material needs.

Application: Questions to Ponder

- Are you "spending" or "investing" your life?
- Is your life making a **significant difference** in the lives of others?
- Do you live **under** "pressure" or **under** "priorities"?
- Do your **time, talent, and treasure** reflect that **pursuing Christ and making Him known** is your #1 priority?

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think materialism is such a battleground for the priorities in our lives?
2. What aspect of this message did you most personally relate to? Why?
3. What is the relationship of worry and materialism?
4. Share what making Christ as "King" in your life looks like. What specific actions will it involve?