

“Christian Character- Choose Your Pursuit” Matthew 6:19-24

Many people in our society and in this era love to divide life into two broad categories: The spiritual and the material. Jesus Christ our Savior never made that distinction. On the contrary, the Lord taught that our approach toward the material is an indication of the depth of our spirituality. So, we must consider what we will constantly and consistently pursue every minute of every day. The pursuit our life takes discloses our true devotion.

I. Your Life Will Choose Your True Love (v.19-21)

- Where will you “set” your affections?

A. Our heart will reside where our treasure resides.

- Treasure in Jesus’ day:

1. Costly Linens
2. Costly metals
3. Costly storage

B. Our heart treasures can face rot, rust, and robbery.

C. Our passions for possessions must be redirected.

D. Earthly riches face many challenges.

1. They are insecure.
2. They can be snatched away at the twinkling of an eye.
3. A person is a fool who seeks an abundance of “things”. (Luke 12:20)

E. Heavenly riches face many crowns.

1. Heavenly riches can be acquired and stored.
2. Heavenly riches are incorruptible and therefore corruption can be escaped. (II Peter 1:4)
3. Heavenly riches are secure.
4. Heaven is worth more than all the world’s wealth.

II. Your Life Will Choose Your True Light (v.22,23)

- A laser emits a highly directional light. A laser light is emitted in a relatively narrow beam.

- Ordinary light (sun, light bulb, candle) is emitted in many directions away from the source!

A. Our light determines our thoughts. (Focus on Jesus and your heart will be full of light.)

1. I fix my eyes on Heaven because my citizenship resides there.
2. I fix my eyes on Heaven because I want eternal treasure.

B. Our light on the tangible yields results as well.

1. One becomes covetous and consuming.
2. One becomes a complainer and a grudge-holder.
3. One becomes apprehensive and fearful.

III. Your Life Will Choose Your True Lord (v.24)

A. The necessity of choosing:

- No one can be a slave to two owners.
- No compromise is possible.

B. The danger of choosing the world:

- It is not “wrong” to possess things; it is wrong to be possessed by things.
- The sin of idolatry is as dangerous as the sin of hypocrisy.
- One’s heart can be easily enslaved.

C. The compensation for choosing the Lord; God Promises:

1. All the necessities of life (Matthew 6:33)
2. Freedom from anxiety. (Philippians 4:6-7)
3. Joy and contentment. (John 15:11)
4. Abundant and eternal life. (John 10:10)