

THE FLORAL HEIGHTS INFORMER

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Deacons:

Joe Cronin
Jim Hall
David Witherspoon

Preacher:

John C. Robertson

True Treasure

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also”
(Matt. 6:19-21).

A story is told of a rich man named David, an owner of a beautiful mansion, giving a friend a tour. David directed the attention of his visitor to valuable pictures and other articles of treasure, expecting to be praised for his taste; but the moralist said, “Ah, David, these are the things that make death terrible!” (Unknown source) Things that appear to be a source of comfort and contentment to the world can actually turn out to be the source of a man’s eternal demise. A recent public radio station commented on the anxieties of baby boom investors. Baby boomers have been investing in various stocks and annuities since the early 1980’s. These investments have consistently produced an annual yield of approximately 8 % increase. Investors’ anxiety exists in the future. What is going to happen to the market when all these baby boomers begin selling? Those whose only treasure is of the world may suffer while some bask in the sunshine of wealth.

Jesus contrasts two types of treasure in the Sermon on the Mount. First, there is the treasure of the world. The treasure of the world is subject to moth, rust, and thieves. Said treasure has a fixed life and then it is gone forever. Secondly is the heavenly treasure. Heavenly treasure is eternal and thereby is not affected by moth, rust, or thieves. Jesus makes a penetrating statement regarding the heart of man by saying, *“where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also.”* The human mind (bible heart) is the storehouse, bank or treasury. The mind that is set on accumulating the worlds’ goods will receive the temporal reward. The mind that is set on accumulating spiritual treasures shall have an eternal reward. The

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors. We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please come back at your every opportunity.

Continue to pray for **Nina Gray** and **Pam Husak** as they recover from recent surgeries.

Gospel Meeting:

Our Gospel meeting is right around the corner (three weeks away)! We will have men from our own congregation doing the preaching on a "Why I Left" Series:

Mike Chancellor – Why I left the Liberal Church of Christ.

Ron Cribbs – Why I left the World.

Joe Cronin – Why I Left the Catholic Church.

Jim Hall – Why I Left the Baptist Church.

Dates for the meeting are September 7, 8, and 9th.

Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home).

Bessie Murphy
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

heart acceptable to God is he who mines the scriptures for wisdom (Eph. 2:1-5). The heart that truly says, "*Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counselors,*" (Psalms 119:24) is a mind interested in eternity.

Is it sinful to have a house, car, savings account, retirement fund, etc? Is it sinful for you to desire your child to excel in a music class, athletics, or academics? Is it sinful for me to exercise so that I remain trim and feeling full of energy? All of these things really have nothing to do with my spiritual well being and it is possible that this is the reason that the apostle Paul once wrote, "*For bodily exercise is profitable for a little; but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life which now is, and of that which is to come*" (I Tim. 4:8). Jesus is not saying that it is sinful to have things or to desire to loose weight but rather He is examining where the true treasure of man's heart is. The Lord's clear message is that one whose purpose in this life is to gain more and more of this worlds goods rather than storing up spiritual treasures of knowledge and wisdom will gain their immediate reward (i.e., riches, fun, weight loss and comfort). Jesus is not instructing us to quit our jobs and sit back waiting for His second appearance like some of the Thessalonians were doing (cf. II Thess. 2:1ff). We are told to work hard in this life (cf. II Thess. 3:10-11). The author of Hebrews uses an illustration of an inheritance in relation to man's eternal abode at Hebrews 9:15ff. The Proverb writer tells the slothful and lazy to look to the ant for an example of one who wisely stores a way for a rainy day (cf. Prov. 6:6ff). People work their whole lives and have something to turn over to their children and there is nothing sinful in this (cf. II Cor. 12:14). The point is that when I have my purpose directed in the right paths through God's word I will be working hard and attaining things yet my true goal in this life is eternity with God. Paul was a tentmaker by trade (cf. Acts 18:1-3) but the one thing he did was to press into heaven (cf. Phil. 3:13-15).

There is nothing wrong with having the goods of this world; however, when the treasures of this world take precedence in my life I need to do some re-prioritizing. No one can take away my heavenly home; however, earthly goods can be stolen and consumed due to their temporal nature. It is true and wise to take lessons from the squirrel and ants by investing now for future needs. Yet how much wiser to lay up treasures in heaven where nothing rust, rots, or is stolen for eternity?

John C. Robertson

Sins of the Heart

Introduction:

Solomon wrote, “*Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life*” (Prov. 4:23). The “*issues of life*” include the way I speak (Prov. 4:24), the things that catch my eye (Prov. 4:25), and the places I go (Prov. 4:26-27). God has created man’s heart with the ability to imagine, dream, make choices, have purpose, drive, and interest. We can close our eyes and find ourselves in another place at another time. Truly the mind is a wonderful thing. With our minds we may bring glory to God (Jn. 15) and with our minds we may bring shame and dishonor (Acts 8:18-23). James tells us that such things ought not be (James 3:10). Let us consider a few things about our hearts this morning:

- I. The mind of Anger (Matt. 5:21-26):
- II. The mind of Lust (Matt. 5:27-30):
- III. The mind that places stumbling blocks before others (Matt. 5:31-32):
- IV. The mind of vain Language (Matt. 5:33-37):
- V. The mind of Vengeance (Matt. 5:38-42):
- VI. The mind of Selective Love (Matt. 5:43-48):
- VII. The mind of Self Glory (Matt. 6:1ff):

Conclusion:

Jesus said, “*The lamp of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is the darkness!*” (Matt. 6:22-23). If my intentions, purpose, and interest in this life is governed by the light of truth then I am filled with Christ. When I allow my heart to drift into areas of anger, lusts, selfishness, vanity, selective love, and self glorification then I display a heart of darkness and corruption (see Romans 8:1ff).