



Sermon #2 – Two Lessons Learned, One Lesson Lived

Mark 12:38-44

September 17, 2017

Discuss Sermon

“Make all you can, save all you can,
give all you can.”- John Wesley

The greatest treasure is Christ himself. To Paul, gaining Christ made everything else seem comparatively worthless (Philippians 3:7-11). But part of gaining Christ was looking forward to eternal reward, Christ’s stamp of approval on his faithful service while on earth. This prospect of eternal reward from his Master’s hand was Paul’s consuming motivation throughout his life (1 Corinthians 9:24-27) and his greatest anticipation at his death (2 Timothy 4:6-8). Christ offers us the incredible opportunity to trade temporary goods and currency for eternal rewards. By putting our money and possessions in his treasury while we’re still on earth, we assure ourselves of eternal rewards beyond comprehension.

- What are three ways you can invest your “Time, Talent, and Treasure” to make an eternal difference?
- What are practical ways that you can live out the “Treasure Principle” in this life?

Treasure Principle = You can’t take it with you but you can send it ahead.

Exchange Views

What we keep we will lose. What we give and share and do in Christ’s name will ultimately come back to us in heaven, in a far better and permanent form.

Anything we try to hang onto here will be lost. But anything we put into God’s hands will be

ours for eternity (and insured for infinitely more than \$100,000 by the real FDIC: the Father's Deposit Insurance Corporation). If we give instead of keep, if we invest in the eternal instead of the temporal, we store up in heaven treasures that will never stop paying dividends. Whatever treasures we store up on earth will be left behind when we leave. Whatever treasures we store up in heaven will be waiting for us when we arrive. The reality of eternal rewards inevitably fosters an investment mentality.

Acts 20:35^b – It is more blessed to give than to receive.

- What does this verse tell you about the use of your “Time, Talent, and Treasure?”
- What does this verse mean in practical terms as a Christian?
- How can this verse be challenging for many people in our culture?

Examine Text – Mark 12:38-44

Read the main text from the sermon and reflect on the key words, phrases, and lessons that God is teaching us.

- What are the key lessons that you learn from this text?
- What do you learn about the treasure principle in these verses?

Personalize Truth

Today's message taught us several important lessons regarding the “Treasure Principle.” Review the lessons below and ask yourself how they apply to your life.

How can you apply these lessons in your own life with your “Time, Talent, and Treasure?”

- **Lesson #1 – Application:** The Accolades of Man Do Not Replace the Blessing of the Lord
- **Lesson #2 – Attitude:** Pride Destroys, Humility Perseveres
- **Lesson #3 – Award:** Live for the Reward that Never Fades

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How to Use This Study Guide: This guide can be used by individuals, families, & small groups to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word. Each section is organized in these areas: **D.E.E.P.** = Discuss Sermon, Exchange Views, Examine Text, and Personalize Truth.