“BUT SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS”

Matthew 6:19–34

Key Verse: 6:33

1. What does Jesus tell us strongly not to do? (19a) Why do people do this? What happens to all treasures on earth? (19b) What positive direction instead does Jesus give us? (20a) What does it mean that these “treasures” do not decay? (20b) Why is what we treasure so important? (21)
2. What did Jesus mean when he said, “The eye is the lamp of the body”? (22–23) How does an “unhealthy” eye lead us to utter darkness? (In Greek, “unhealthy” here also can mean “stingy.”) How does this fit with what Jesus just said in verses 19–21?
3. Read verse 24. What two fundamental life directions does Jesus say all people basically have? (Why is the word “money” capitalized here?) Why can we not serve both God and Money?
4. What seems to happen to those who make a firm decision to serve God, not money? (25) How many times does Jesus mention the word “worry”? (25–34) What are the typical things people worry about? What is the fundamental cause of worries? (30b)
5. To help us overcome our worries, what does Jesus teach us about God? (26,27,30,32) What should this mean to us in our personal lives?
6. Read verse 33a. How does Jesus challenge us here? What has he already taught about how to do this? (5:6,10,20; 6:1,9,10) In what specific ways can we order our lives based on this verse?
7. What does God promise for those who do, and why is it important to believe this promise? (33b) What final teaching did Jesus give about worrying? (34) How does this wisdom help us to live in the real world?