

**Treasures in God**  
**Matthew 6:19-34**

## Wealth and Worry

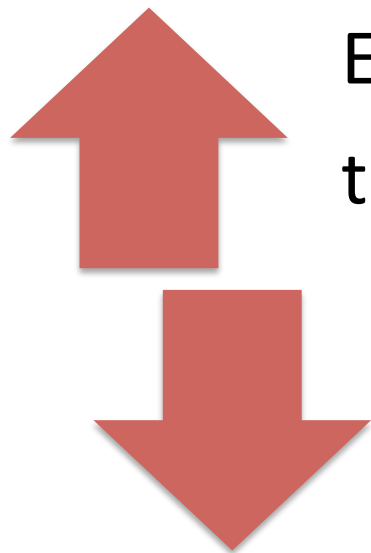
*“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

Mt 6:19-21 (ESV)

**Do not treasure up treasures**

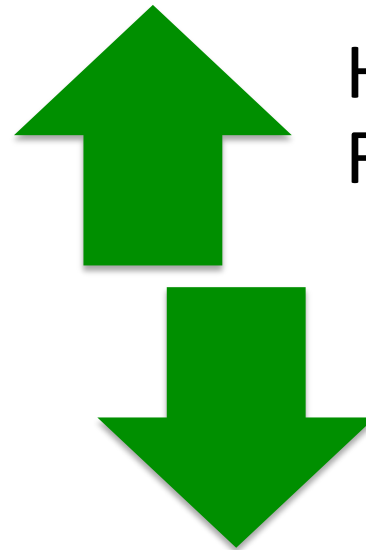
# Wealth

- the Lord God is the One  
*“who gives you power to get wealth”* (Dt 8:18)
- A gift from our loving Father
  - not to be treasured, not to be hoarded



Earthly  
treasure

Heavenly  
Father



Heavenly  
Father

Earthly  
treasure

## Interesting Contrasts

Prov 13:22 (ESV)      A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.

Ecc 2:18-19 (ESV)      I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This ... is vanity.

*“where your treasure is,  
there your heart will be also”*

**We will go where we are looking**

*lay up for [ourselves] treasures in heaven*

**“You can’t take it with you – but you can send it  
on ahead.”**

## Treasures in Heaven

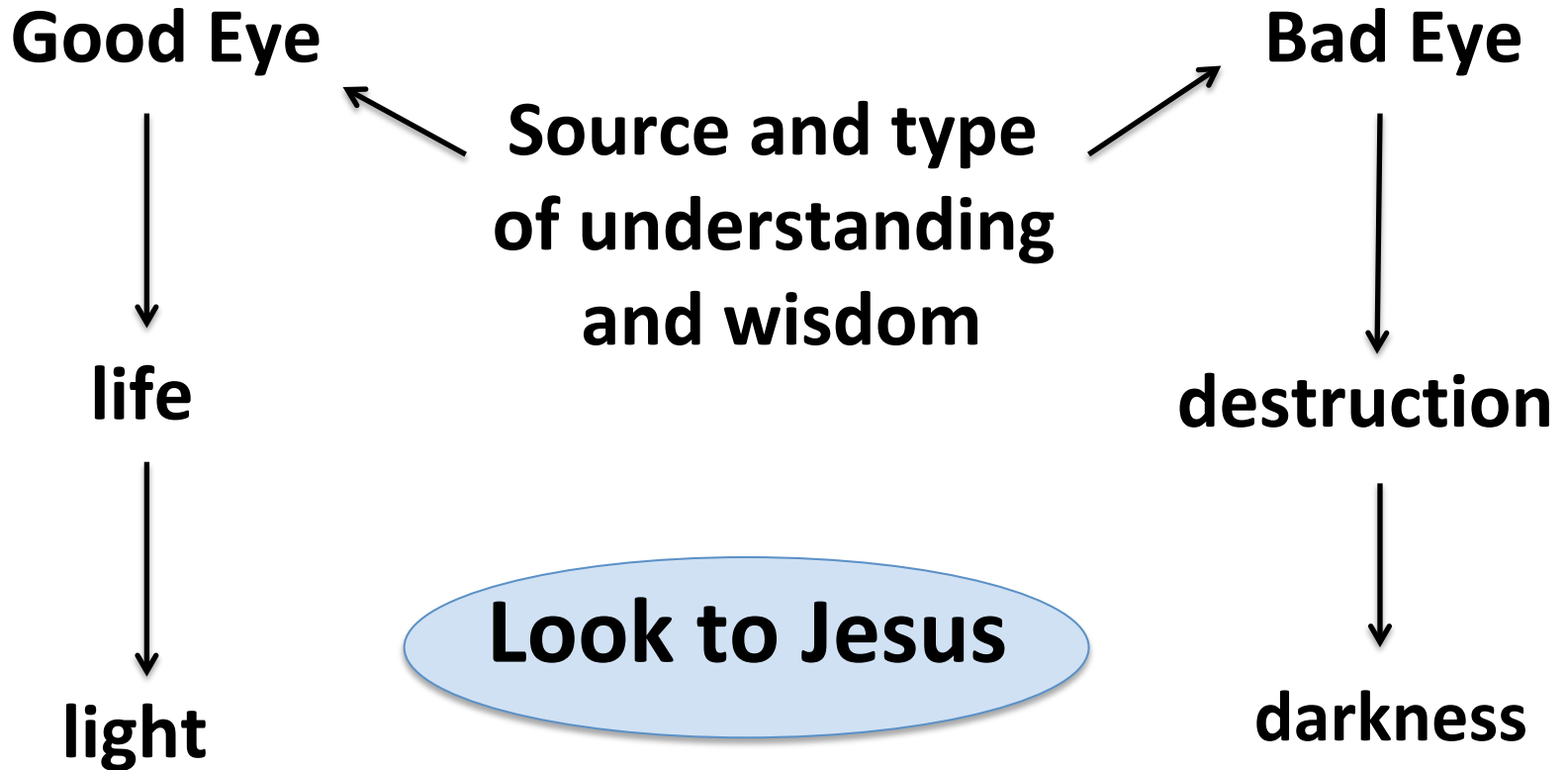
I do not cling to these things. They do not become the centre of my life and existence. I do not live for them or dwell upon them constantly in my mind; they do not absorb my life. On the contrary, I hold them loosely ... I am not governed by them; rather do I govern them; and as I do this I am steadily securing, and safely laying up for myself, “treasures in heaven.”

Martyn Lloyd-Jones

## **Matthew 6:22-23**

*“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!*”

# (Another) Binary Choice





# Choose to see Clearly

*“No one can serve two masters, for 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 God and money. Mt 6:24 (ESV)*



Wealth	God
disappointment	certainty
darkness	clarity
futility	illumination
uncertainty	freedom
distraction	joy



## Joshua's Challenge

*“Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup> ¶ And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD”*

Jos 24:14-15 ESV

## Elijah's Challenge

*(Elijah) came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him"*

*1Ki 18:21 ESV*

## Test

1. I earn money so that I can pay the rent (or the mortgage), buy food and clothes, and pay the utilities, and I will give some to the church when I can afford it. Or,
2. I recognise that everything I earn is in fact a trust from God. Yes, I use it to pay the rent (or the mortgage), to buy food and clothes, and to pay the utilities, but I delight to give as much as I can – both of my money and of my time and energy – to the works of God.

## **Matthew 6:25-29**

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

## **Matthew 6:30-34**

But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

# Worry

“Worry is a conversation you have with yourself over things you cannot change; prayer is a conversation you have with God over things He can change.”  
(Facebook)

“Worry doesn’t empty tomorrow of its sorrow, but it empties today of its strength.”  
(Corrie ten Boom)

## **Don't Worry**

“To become preoccupied with material things in such a way that they engross our attention, absorb our energy and burden us with anxiety is incompatible with both Christian faith and common sense. It is distrustful of our heavenly Father and it is frankly stupid.”

(John Stott)



## **Don't Worry**

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

**Rom 8:31-32 ESV**

# Our Attitude Toward Material Wealth?

1. Do not treasure it.
2. Place the emphasis of life on the eternal Kingdom of our Lord Jesus
3. Trust Him to provide all that is necessary

***seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you***

# Your Choice – Your Treasure

**Money**

**OR**

**Jesus**

“He is no fool who gives  
what he cannot keep to gain  
that which he cannot lose.”

(Jim Elliot)