

# All These Things

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

**Matthew 4:8-11.** "Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him."

Things, all kinds of things, take up so much of a person's life. Sure, we have to have some things to support this body of flesh, but just how much do we need? I think that there are only two times and people in the Bible who said, "I have enough." **Genesis 33: 9-11.** How much is enough? It would be difficult to find anyone who would say that they had enough. No matter how wealthy a person might be, he will still want more. More land, more money and certainly more things.

Satan knew that the heart of man had a longing for material things. That is why he tried to lure Jesus into thinking of the things of this world. When Satan can get a man to dwell on things, and to get the ideal that things are what life is all about, then that person will spend his life gathering things. When this happens then there are only scraps of time and effort to give to God, if even that much.

The effort to get things and the so-called "Security" that they bring can cause a person to not only lose out on a relationship with God, but even with family. A spouse left alone too much is more likely to be tempted by someone who shows interest in her, or him. Children suffer when they are left to themselves too much and are without guidance and family time. Some parents feel that they are doing a good job if they keep their children in the latest fashions and have a nice car for them. Things can't replace time and love that all children need.

We know that Satan is an enemy of God and of those who serve God. If Satan can get a person to focus on some thing instead of God then he is causing a division between that person and the Lord. **Matthew 16: 26.** "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole

world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Here Jesus asked, if I may paraphrase it, "Are the things of the world worth losing your soul?" Any sensible person would say no to this, but still many are more concerned with money and other things than they are with God. People seem to find a false sense of security in material things.

It is a false sense of security for the simple reason that they can't save a person. All they might do is to give some comfort here in this life. Then the person dies and all the things of this world are left behind. The spirit goes back to God who gave it and then nothing matters, but our relationship to God. Life here is for a short time, but eternity is forever. So the question is, "Which deserves the most attention?"

We need to use the things of this world and not to let the things of this world use us. In **Luke 12:23** Jesus said, "The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment." There is more to life than food, clothes, and other things. No one should get so wrapped up in the pursuit of things that he forgets to live and misses a relationship with the Lord.

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519  
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