

Where Is Your Treasure?

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also," Matt 6:19-21.

We usually think of treasure as being gold, silver, or jewels. In reality it can be whatever we treasure in our minds and hearts. It can be anything that we might value more than a relationship with God. For example money was a treasure that lured Judas to betray Jesus. He turned from the Lord and the path of life for thirty pieces of silver. He must have justified it to himself in some way, never dreaming that he would regret his decision and try to undo it. Too late he found out that the priests didn't care about him and that he couldn't change his deal with them. Sin is like that, it will lure you into something, use you, and then leave you to face the consequences. All who allow themselves to be blinded by the desire for pleasure, money, or whatever it may be, will, like Judas, be sorry later.

There are different kinds of treasure. There are mate-

rial things, like money, lands, or anything of this world. Then there is spiritual treasure that is worth so much more that it can't be compared to worldly things. Any material treasure we can lose, have it stolen, or lose in some other way. That which is spiritual no one can steal from us and it will never wax old and decay. Also, we can take the spiritual blessings with us when we leave this life, but all material things will be left behind.

As people are different so are the things that they treasure. Some will seek the pleasure of this world and spend all the time that they can in pursuit of it. Others will desire to walk with God and will live their lives in fellowship with the Lord. Not all people treasure the same things, but all people treasure something. You can tell what a person treasures by what he gives his time and effort too. We need to look at ourselves and see what is the real treasure in our own lives. Is it what we want to face the Lord with when this life is over?

If we let something take our time and life away from the Lord then it is something that we value more than we do him. I don't care what it may be, we won't feel the same about it when we stand before Jesus on the Day of Judgment. What do we have to show for the years that we have lived here on earth? Is it some material things, a certain amount of money that we'll leave behind, land, a business, or some accomplish-

ment? Is a life measured by the things that we accumulate here?

This is a material world that we must live in while in this body of flesh. There are things that we need to support this life and we work to obtain them. Even so, we must not let the need, or want, of material things fill our hearts and lives so that there is no time, or thought, of God and living for him. The Devil would like to have us to think that this life is all that there is and that when it is over then there is nothing else to come, either good, or bad. It would be foolish to think that such will be the case. God made us to know him and to walk with him and tells us that there will be a judgment for all of the earth.

As He told us in **Romans 14: 11-12**, "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." So we must not let ourselves be deceived into thinking that we can spend our lives in the pursuit of pleasure or wealth. It is our lives and we will do as we want to the extent of our abilities, but we will still face the Lord. "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." **Ecclesiastes 1:9**.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

ABRAM IN EGYPT

HAVING VIEWED SARAI'S BEAUTY, THE EGYPTIAN PRINCES ARE WELL AWARE THAT THEIR PHAROAH WILL REWARD THEM HANDSOMELY FOR SUCH GOOD NEWS—ALL OF WHICH ABRAM HAS FEARED....

WILL YOU HAVE SOME REFRESHMENT?

NAY NOW! WE DO NOT HAVE THE TIME!

AS THE PRINCES HURRY OFF, ABRAM HAS DISQUIETING THOUGHTS OVER THEIR HASTE!

...AND INDEED, THE PRINCES CAN HARDLY WAIT TO TELL THEIR PHAROAH THIS NEWS!

O, MIGHTY PHAROAH, LIVE-FOR-EVER, HEAR US!

...AND YOU SAY SHE IS THE SISTER OF THIS STRANGER IN MY LAND—HMMM! WE SHALL HAVE TO SEND HIM MANY FINE GIFTS!

...AND PHAROAH IS VERY PLEASSED! A GREAT BEAUTY, HERE, IN HIS LAND! SOME ONE, NO DOUBT, WHO CAN GIVE GRACE AND STYLE TO HIS ESTABLISHMENT—A WORTHY ORNAMENT FIT TO REFLECT HIS OWN ROYAL SPLENDOR, HANDSOMELY!

JOHN LEHTI

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