

CouplesInBloom.com – Designing Your Eternity

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Jesus said **He** is going to prepare an eternal place for us ⇒ John 14:1-4, & that **we** are the ones who determine the wealth of that place, which can *only* be compiled in this life ⇒ Matthew 6:19-21. Jesus spoke **three phrases** about what we send Him to build it with:

1. Verse 19 ⇒ “**Do not lay up** treasures on earth **for yourself**”. Jesus did *not* say to take a vow of poverty! (as the next verse clarifies), but that we have **very wise** ⇒ Proverbs 11:30 **and very foolish** ⇒ Luke 12:15-21 **options** in our life to choose from that have **huge and eternal consequences**. A central question in this test is:

“**How does Jesus define treasure?**” Anyone with treasures has the ability to say that they do *not* have treasures, and that all their possessions and pleasures are all part of their existence. **Jesus’ answer:** “Put your sword in its place; those who **live by the sword die by the sword.**” ⇒ Matthew 26:52. In other words: **You design your eternity by your own definition:** the wealthy who determine they have no wealth to invest in ministry *therefore* determine to be poor in Heaven. The poor, who have no wealth, who yet determine to invest in ministry, even from their poverty, *therefore* determine to be wealthy in Heaven ⇒ 2 Corinthians 8:1-4.

2. Verse 20 ⇒ “**Lay up** treasures in Heaven **for yourself**”. Jesus reinforces the first instruction by incentivizing us by saying that those who ignore it are “**fools**” ⇒ Luke 12:20. A fool is someone who knows what to do but does not do it ⇒ James 2:14-18; 4:17 ...even if they think about doing it all the time, make plans, and start doing it but do not finish ⇒ 2 Corinthians 8:11. God is not about laws (which are the power of sin ⇒ 1 Corinthians 15:56), but rather He is very compassionate for us and our free will ability to disobey His commands which deliver us ⇒ John 3:16.
3. Verse 21 ⇒ **Your heart** (thoughts & feelings) **and your treasure** (wealth) **are one literally** as if having sexual intercourse / one flesh; they cannot be separated. You have the ability to believe the lie that you can maintain the conflicting priorities of laying up treasures on earth for yourself *and* laying up treasures in Heaven for yourself, but Jesus said you are only fooling yourself (maybe others but certainly not Him) ⇒ Matthew 6:24.

When you build **God’s** house He will build **yours**, *and* meet all your needs on earth ⇒ Matthew 6:25-34. Laying up treasures on earth for yourself means your lifestyle proves your heart is on your house instead of His. **IF YOU HAVE LACK:** honestly examine where you do put your treasures. Merely **knowing** the Bible *literally inflates*, whereas **servicing** according to the Bible *literally constructs* ⇒ 1 Corinthians 8:1-3.

GOD SEES whether your heart is set on **designing your eternity** *or* designing your life. Hebrews 11 ⇒ talks about “something better” which is having your heart set on eternity. **GOD PROMISES** to provide for those who keep His priority. What good is meeting your own needs, and the needs of others, but spending eternity in poverty? Do not be one whom God will call, “**FOOL!**” ⇒ Luke 12:20; **design your eternity.** ♥