

**Your Treasure and Your Anxiety, They are Connected.
Matthew 6:19-21**

Sometimes the either/or fallacy is not a fallacy. In the remaining verses of chapter 6, Jesus give us 4 illustrations with two choices to follow. There are two _____, two _____, two _____ and two _____.

Thinking improperly about these choices will invariably lead to some emotional difficulties, namely _____.

Jesus begins this section with ___ verses on hypocrisy and ends the chapter with ___ verses on _____.

These two sins are not terribly far from one another. Both are self-centered. In hypocrisy the concern is to be _____ by others. In anxiety the concern is to supply _____.

Neither has grasped the fact of God's _____.

The problem with anxiety is not just that we think negatively about life, it's much deeper than that. The problem is people think _____ about life. Consequently, anxiety can be traced to three factors:

I. We have our _____ in the Wrong Place

Jesus said "don't treasure up your treasures..." The root of this word, treasure, is where we get our word thesaurus in English. A Thesaurus is a treasury of words. It carries the idea of _____, _____.

The picture here is of wealth simply being stockpiled, not being used. In ancient times a person's wealth would show up in _____. Finer clothing would have gold sewn into it, denoting a wealthy person. Guess what moths liked to eat then and now? The rich person as well, intent on stockpiling, would build bigger barns to store their grain. Notice the word "rust" in the text. This particular word literally means "an eating" and it should probably be translated like that here, rather than rust. So the thought is here that their grain is being eaten, not by human beings, but by rats, mice, worms and insects.

Jesus tells us there are only ___ places to store up things. Those things we prize are things we'd also treasure. Don't mistake the intent here. It can mean money but it's more. He means to warn those people who get their main/total satisfaction in this life from things belonging to this _____ only. He's warning against a man who confines his ambition, his

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interests and hopes _____.
Treasures could be _____,
_____ or even _____. So,
the danger is real and involves both _____ and
_____.

How does a person lay up treasure on this earth? It could be hoarding or amassing wealth as _____, IRA's, retirement plans, checking or savings accounts, homes or cars. When a person sees his/her possessions belonging not to Jesus, but themselves, that's the problem.

There are only ____ places for our treasure to be. In _____ or on _____. Notice that Jesus doesn't condemn money or wealth. He didn't even say it was wrong to have treasures on earth. He reminds us that we live in a fallen world, one that is passing and offers no _____ security. Things do not buy happiness. Happiness depends upon _____ wealth. Sinclair Ferguson wrote: "Real spirituality is not seen in the gathering of wealth, but in being delivered from it, _____ it or not."

So, Jesus says lay up your treasure in heaven. Why is that? He know that where you lay up your treasure,

that's where your _____ will be. So, what is it that grips your life?

If your treasure is in heaven, it genuinely belongs to Jesus. If our treasure is here on this earth, we'll spend our waking moments to guard it, to protect and, our anxiety levels will be tied to its safety.

How do we lay up treasures in heaven?

Remember what happened early in the church, recounted in the books of Acts?