

## Life In The Spirit : Where's The Treasure?

Top 5 worries in the world as of March

Inflation — 42%

Poverty — 31%

Crime/Violence — 29%

Unemployment — 28%

Financial Corruption in government — 26%

The world worries about money.

Living life in the Spirit looks different than the the world.

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. Galatians 5:16 NLT

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; 21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21

Our hearts are ever bent toward treasure. We serve what we love.

X marks the spot!

- Is the priority to make time to pray, read and meditate on God's word?
- Is the priority working to have more stuff?
- Is the priority to teach our children about God and lead them to Him?
- Is the priority to teach them about man's wisdom and leading them to that?
- Do we prioritize stuff so much that we find ourselves accruing credit card debt?
- How do we measure success?
  - How much money is made and stuff that is owned or how quickly God is obeyed.
- Does our level of anxiety go up when level of money in the bank account goes down?
- Is it a priority to assemble on Sunday?

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! Matthew 6:22-23

Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, Nor are the eyes of man ever satisfied.  
Proverbs 27:20

If our eyes can clearly see and our priorities are on Heavenly treasures, our whole being is an instrument God can use to draw others to Himself. On the contrary, if our eyes are being dimmed by the pursuit of earthly treasures, our entire being becomes a stumbling block.

What are we looking to for satisfaction? To what do we anchor our hope? Where is our treasure? What are we seeking?

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”  
Matthew 6:24

Jesus knows we can't focus on both.

It's a thin line.... We don't eat if we don't work....

25“For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?” Matthew 6:25-26

Life isn't about stuff. (Even the stuff that we need)

If God can and does take care of birds, He certainly can, will, and does take care of our needs.

Do you really believe that God sent His son to save you?

27 And who of you by being worried can add a *single* hour to his life? Matthew 6:27

Worry doesn't empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength. ~Corrie Ten Boom

There are a lot of bad things in my life. Most of which, never happened.

Worrying doesn't serve a purpose. It doesn't fix anything. It doesn't even move anything toward a solution.

28 And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, 29 yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field,

which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! Matthew 6:28-29

When we worry, we are proving we lack faith.

31 Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' 32 For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:31-33

We must fix our eyes on God - on things above - and He will take care of our needs.

34 "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. Matthew 6:31-34

"When you lose your desire for things that do not matter, you will be free." ~ Morihei Ueshiba

The idea that what we need to be satisfied, is more of what we already have (that isn't satisfying us), is a lie that Satan has used to distract us from our work of glorifying God.

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. Ecclesiastes 5:10