

# WHO MOVED THE PRICE TAGS?

MATTHEW 6:19-24

What happens if you look for treasure in all the wrong places? Or if you treasure all the wrong things? In this section of his sermon on the mount, Jesus warns Israel about the consequences of their wrong priorities. It's easy to put all your time and attention into building up treasures on earth - and the tragedy is, they simply don't last. Someone steals your new car, your favourite jacket gets eaten by moths in the cupboard - the things we hoard away for safe keeping end up in ruins. All that stress... for nothing! We need to recognise that the real treasure lies elsewhere!



READ MATTHEW 6:19-24.

1. Why is it foolish to store up treasures on earth, but sensible to store them up in heaven? How should these Israelites who are longing for God's Kingdom be storing up treasures in heaven? (Verse 33 might help!)

2. It's hard to figure out exactly what Jesus means in his comments about eyes in verse 22. However, the original word translated as "good" in the phrase **if your eyes are good** actually means "properly folded together" - or, as we'd say, properly focused. In other words, both our eyes need to be pointing the same way!

Understood in this way, how does this tie in with verse 24? What is Jesus saying?

What sort of things will tell you whether you're in danger of making yourself a slave to money rather than Jesus? Give some practical examples.

3. Do you *really* agree that it's impossible to serve both God and money? Why?

**Read Matthew 6:25-34**

4. Jesus sees this section as following logically from what he has just said. What's the connection?

5. What sort of things do YOU worry about? Why?

6. In verses 25 to 30, what kind of “worry” is Jesus most concerned about?

7. In verses 31 and 32, what reasons does Jesus give for not worrying? Does this mean Christians will never go hungry or cold? (Perhaps verse 27 adds some balance here?)

8. What do you think it means to **seek first his kingdom and his righteousness?** According to Deuteronomy 30:1-6, how was Israel to do this? What would the consequence be?

Jesus is gathering together a people who are more concerned for righteousness than for personal wealth and comfort... who are more hungry and thirsty for righteous hearts than for caviar and champagne.

What's *your* main hunger? Are the right price-tags on the right things in your own life and ambitions?  
*If you're married, what would your husband or wife say about your answer? Do you dare ask?*



**'THIRSTY YET?'**