

TREASURES

Matthew 6 ¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

or...

"He who dies with the most toys wins."

Do we spend most of our time, energy, and resources acquiring and worrying about the treasures of this world? If so, why? What are the reasons for acquiring treasures on this earth?

Matthew 13 ⁴³Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear! ⁴⁴ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

What are the heavenly treasures that Jesus called us to acquire?

How do we go about acquiring heavenly treasures?

Luke 18 ²¹ And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." ²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." ²³ But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. (also, Mark 10:20-22)

Hebrews 11 ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Are the saved going to have the same rewards in heaven?

1 Corinthians 3 ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Rev 22 ¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

Colossians 3 ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵ But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

Matthew 12 ³⁴ Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. ³⁵ A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. ³⁶ But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

Luke 12 ²⁰ But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?" ²¹ "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

James 5 ² Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days. ⁴ Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

How do you plan to earn eternal treasures as a normal course of life?

Colossians 3 ¹ If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Toys and Religion

Adaptations of "He who dies with the most toys, wins."

7th Day Adventist - He who plays with his toys on Saturday, loses.

Agnosticism - It is not possible to know whether toys make a bit of difference.

Amish - Toys with batteries are surely a sin.

***Anarchist** - We can play with anyone's toys we want, whenever we want for as long as we want.

Anglican - They were our toys first.

Atheist - There is no toy maker.

Baptist - Once played, always played.

Baha'i - All toys are just fine with us.

Branch Davidian - He who dies playing with the biggest toys, wins.

Calvinism - He who dies with the most toys was eternally predestined to win.

***Capitalist** - He who dies with the most toys, wins.

Catholicism - He who denies himself the most toys, wins.

Church of Christ Scientist - We are the toys.

Church of Christ - He whose toys make music, loses.

Communism - Everyone gets the same number of toys, and you go straight to hell if we catch you selling yours.

Confucianism - Once a toy is dipped in the water, it is no longer dry.

***Democrat** - My brother is bigger than your brother and he says you have to let me play with you.

Evolutionism - The toys made themselves.

Existentialism - Toys are a figment of your imagination.

Greek Orthodox - No, they were OURS first.

Hari Krishna - He who plays with the most toys, wins.

Hedonism - To heck with the rule book!?! Let's play!

Hinduism - He who plays with bags of plastic farm animals, loses.

Jehovah's Witnesses - He who sells the most toys door-to-door, wins.

***Libertarian** - No one is going to tell me what I can and can't do with my toys.

Mormonism - Every boy can have as many toys as he wants.

***New Age** - Go stand in front of your mirror and contemplate your inner toy.

Non-denominationalism - We don't care where the toys came from, let's just play with them.

Pentecostalism - He whose toys can talk, wins.

Pantheism - All toys are interrelated or There are no toys--everything is sacred

Polytheism - There are many toy makers.

***Republican** - Let the kids keep their toys.

***Satanist** - I'm going to smash all your toys.

***Socialist** - My mom says you have to share that toy with me.

Taoism - The doll is as important as the dumptruck.

***Theosophy** - All toys came from the original One Toy.

Unitarian Universalist - I respect your toy even if you disrespect mine.

Voodoo - Let me borrow that doll for a second.

***Wiccan** - Let us breath in harmony with our Toys.