

Wrath or Riches?

Sunday Morning, August 26, 2012

Thesis & Introduction:

Is the Gift of Eternal Life Parallel to Receiving Rewards/Treasure in Heaven?

When I was a new Christian I asked my Pastor,
"How do you store up treasure in Heaven?"

I. "Treasure" in Heaven is a Product of Action

The Rich Young Ruler

(Mark 10: 17-22)

17 As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up, knelt down before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

18 "Why do you call Me good?" Jesus asked him. "No one is good but One—God.

19 You know the commandments:

- Do not murder;
- do not commit adultery;
- do not steal;
- do not bear false witness;
- do not defraud;
- honor your father and mother."

20 He said to Him, "Teacher, I have kept all these from my youth."

21 Then, looking at him, Jesus loved him and said to him, "You lack one thing: Go, sell all you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me."

22 But he was stunned at this demand, and he went away grieving, because he had many possessions.

(Hebrews 11:6)

Now without faith it is impossible to please God, for the one who draws near to Him must believe that He exists and rewards those who seek Him.

(Matthew 7: 21-23)

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 On that day many will say to Me, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in Your name, drive out demons in Your name, and do many miracles in Your name?'

23 Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you! Depart from Me, you lawbreakers!'

II. What Does It Mean to Be Rich Toward God?

(Luke 12: 16 – 21)

16 Then He told them a parable: "A rich man's land was very productive.

17 He thought to himself, 'What should I do, since I don't have anywhere to store my crops?

18 I will do this,' he said. 'I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones and store all my grain and my goods there.

19 Then I'll say to myself, "You have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy; eat, drink, and enjoy yourself."

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is demanded of you. And the things you have prepared—whose will they be?'

21 "That's how it is with the one who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Rich Towards God = Rich in Christ

(Luke 12: 22-34)

22 Then He said to His disciples: "Therefore I tell you, don't worry about your life, what you will eat; or about the body, what you will wear.

23 For life is more than food and the body more than clothing.

24 Consider the ravens: They don't sow or reap; they don't have a storeroom or a barn; yet God feeds them. Aren't you worth much more than the birds?

Scripture Passage continued on next page

25 Can any of you add a cubit to his height by worrying?
26 If then you're not able to do even a little thing, why worry about the rest?
27 "Consider how the wildflowers grow: They don't labor or spin thread. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was adorned like one of these!
28 If that's how God clothes the grass, which is in the field today and is thrown into the furnace tomorrow, how much more will He do for you—you of little faith?
29 Don't keep striving for what you should eat and what you should drink, and don't be anxious.
30 For the Gentile world eagerly seeks all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.
31 "But seek His kingdom, and these things will be provided for you.
32 Don't be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights to give you the kingdom.
33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Make money-bags for yourselves that won't grow old, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.
34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

(Luke 12: 33 KJV)

Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.

[Is Christ Your Treasure?](#)

III. What Are You Storing in Heaven For Yourself? Wrath or Riches?

(Romans 2: 5-8)

5 But because of your hardness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment is revealed.
6 He will repay each one according to his works:
7 eternal life to those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality;
8 but wrath and indignation to those who are self-seeking and disobey the truth but are obeying unrighteousness;

[How Will God Repay Our Works?](#)

(I Corinthians 3: 10-15)

10 According to God's grace that was given to me, I have laid a foundation as a skilled master builder, and another builds on it. But each one must be careful how he builds on it.
11 For no one can lay any other foundation than what has been laid down. That foundation is Jesus Christ.
12 If anyone builds on that foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw,
13 each one's work will become obvious, for the day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire; the fire will test the quality of each one's work.
14 If anyone's work that he has built survives, he will receive a reward.
15 If anyone's work is burned up, it will be lost, but he will be saved; yet it will be like an escape through fire.

[Works Pass Through Fire](#)

Conclusion:

[Treasure Stored Up in Heaven Reflects the Heart of Those Who Know, Love and Live for Christ Jesus Their Lord!](#)