

# The Sermon on the Mount: Moths & Money

Matthew 6:19-24

The things of earth are temporarily secure.

📖 Matthew 6:19 (NIV) “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.”

## Using Money Wisely

### 1. God gives us the ability to produce wealth.

📖 Deuteronomy 8:18 (NIV) “But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your forefathers, as it is today.”

### 2. God expects us to save for the future.

📖 Proverbs 21:20 (LB) “The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.”

### 3. God encourages us to provide an inheritance.

📖 2 Corinthians 12:14c (NCV) “...Children should not have to save up to give to their parents. Parents should save to give to their children.”

### 4. God warns us against greed.

📖 Luke 12:15 (NIV) “...He said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

📖 Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NIV) “Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.”

The things in heaven are eternally secure.

📖 Matthew 6:20 (NIV) “But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.”

📖 Matthew 25:31–40 (NIV) “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left. <sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ <sup>37</sup> “Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to

drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' <sup>40</sup> "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'"

📖 Matthew 6:21–24 (NIV) "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. <sup>22</sup> "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. <sup>23</sup> But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! <sup>24</sup> "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

📖 1 Timothy 6:7 (NIV) "For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it."

📖 Matt 16:26a (NIV) "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?"

**Digging Deeper**—Have you ever had something stolen from you? Describe a time when you had something that you thought was safe and secure turn out not to be. Why is money such a touchy subject? Is it ever right to not help someone in need? In what ways could you be more giving? In what ways could our church be more giving? Are you storing up treasure in heaven? How big is your pile of treasures in heaven? Is there anyone in heaven today because they received Jesus as a result of something you did?