Everyday Ethics #13 Pastor Rick Baker

July 17 2022

Instructions for Treasure Hunters

Matt. 6:19-24

What goals have you set for your life? What treasure have you stored, where?

*“Every day the world turns over on someone who was just sitting on top of it.” (Bruner)*

*“To be clever enough to get all of that money, one must be stupid enough to want it.”*

*“There are two ways to have enough money: one is to acquire more; the other is to desire less.” (G.K. Chesterton)*

*Buddha’s solution is to rid oneself of all desires.*

**Jesus’ calls us to redirect our desires to more sustainably glorious outcomes.** John Piper calls “Christian Hedonism”

Those who ignore Jesus are in danger of losing everything; those who obey Jesus are guaranteed to keep everything!

Three investment strategies disciples of Jesus are commanded to embrace...

*Right goals drive right desires and right conduct*

1. Make “heavenly investing” the treasure you stockpile (6:19-21)

*Is this investment ultimately going to increase my* ***heavenly account*** *or just my earthly one?*

*Making money, even lots of it, isn’t viewed as the problem, storing it up for the purposes of investing only in the things of this earth is.*

*“Treasures in heaven” are every act of obedient loyalty to Christ for the glory of God alone.*

1. Laser your focus on activities that fill your whole life with light (6:22-23)

*Will this* ***glorify*** *God or dampen and mute Him?*

*“Good eyes” are totally unobstructed to spiritual investment opportunities.*

1. Settle on Jesus as your sole Master and entire investment strategy.

*Who or what am I* ***serving*** *through this investment?*

Signs of Mamon-service🡪

1. Starting to resent God for what you aren’t getting/ He isn’t giving
2. Having trouble believing in much of God or His instructions, convincing yourself that your drift is justified.

Mamon is the modern idol of an alternative religion of affluence, investing in this material world, which moves to spiritual apathy, and ultimately, if not arrested, to apostasy—eternal perishing.

**CHOOSE THIS DAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE.**