

LESSON 9: MATTHEW 6:19 - 7:12
JUNE 4, 2008

OVERVIEW

- . The conduct of God's Blessed Ones - Matthew 6:19 - 7:12
 - . In regards to the necessities of life - Matthew 6:19-34
 - . In regards to relationships - Matthew 7:1-12

THE CONDUCT OF GOD'S BLESSED ONES - MATTHEW 6:19 - 7:12

IN REGARDS TO THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE - MATTHEW 6:19-34

What do you love? Matthew 6:19-21

- . A person's treasure is where their heart is - Matthew 6:21
- . One treasure is on Earth, one treasure is in Heaven
- . Earthly treasures give superficial satisfaction and much anxiety
 - . Anxiety could center around possessions rusting, being stolen, getting sick, having an accident or death itself
- . Heavenly treasures give our hearts deep peace, no sense of insecurity, and protection from Earthly Decay
- . A good gauge of where our heart is at, is to measure how much time we spend thinking about each of the treasures mentioned above

What do we see? Matthew 6:22-23

- . One's inward vision, one's single, sincere purpose, one's aim in life, invariably determines one's whole character and outward activities
- . Our inward vision determines what we see with our eyes
- . Whoever lives by the truth comes into light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God - John 3:21

Whom do we serve? Matthew 6:24

- . No man can be a slave to two masters
- . When we receive the Holy Spirit into our being by a deliberate commitment of faith in Jesus Christ, we acknowledge that we are no longer our own
- . It is no longer what I want to do, rather what does Christ want me to do

Why do we worry? Matthew 6: 25-34

- . "Therefore" shows the close connection with the following passage and what has gone on before
- . If we trustingly obey God in all things, he will see to it that we have all we need
- . In everything, we need to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness
- . Worry is not righteousness, but unbelief, which is sin

IN REGARDS TO RELATIONSHIPS - MATTHEW 7:1-12

Jesus gives us four commands that relate to Christian conduct in personal relationships and in prayer with God

- . Do not judge
- . Do not give dogs what is sacred
- . Pray
- . The golden rule

Do not judge - Matthew 7: 1-5

- . "Judge not" does *not* mean that a Christian should *never* express an opinion about others in order to have peace, quiet and unity
 - . We live in an age where these words are twisted to mean we need to practice appeasement, especially in the realm of theology
 - . However nowhere in scripture does it advocate appeasement between what is true and false; scripture warns about this
 - . Galatians 1:8
 - . 2 Timothy 2:17-19
 - . 2 John 8-11
- . Judge not means condemn not
 - . Christ had the Pharisees in mind when he was saying this
 - . The pharisaical attitude of valuing self and despising others is vividly illustrated in the parable of Luke 18: 9-14
 - . To 'judge' is to be self righteous, condemning and possibly hypocritical
 - . To always be looking for the bad in someone is to have the wrong spirit of judgment
 - . To judge is to pronounce final judgment which is the prerogative of God alone
- . Results of disobeying this command
 - . To judge is to suffer judgment - Matthew 7:2, Luke 6: 37-38
 - . People will treat us with the same spirit we treat them
 - . To judge is to be blind to ones own faults

Do not give to dogs what is sacred - Matthew 7:6

- . The Lord commands us not to condemn nor censure others - however, he also commands us to *beware* of the other extreme lacking true spiritual discernment
 - . Do not surrender Holy responsibility to non Christians who will not appreciate the preciousness of God's gift
 - . Who is Christ referring to?
 - . Those who have pretended to make a religious profession but who do not really want Christ's teachings
 - . "As a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool repeats his folly", Proverbs 26:11
 - . "A sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud", 2 Peter 2:22
 - . Peter warns us to stand firm, 2 Peter 3: 1-18
 - . Christ is warning us, the church, not to yield ground to false prophets
 - . The church today is doing the very thing we were warned against
 - . In an attempt to seek unity we water down the truth and give up sacred Ground
 - . The result is that the church is being torn into many pieces, as Christ warned

Pray - Matthew 7: 7-11

- . There's only one way we can effectively achieve Christ commands in 7:1-6 and that is through prayer
- . Christ describes a threefold approach to prayer here - Ask, Seek, Knock
 - . Ask - recognize the utter dependence upon God to provide wisdom - James 1: 5-8
 - . Be persistent in prayer for perseverance tests our true desire and faith
 - . Seek - suggests greater urgency
 - . One who seeks moves beyond the ask, willing to seek at any cost, the living God Deuteronomy 4:29
 - . Knock - implies a mixture of dependence and effort, indicating progressive perseverance
- . Have confidence in prayer - Matthew 7: 9-11
 - . Just like a father answers his child's request, so to does God answer our requests
 - . Recognize that he will not always give us the superficial desires of our heart
 - . Recognize he will not answer our prayers in *our* timing
 - . He will however satisfy the deep longing of our heart for spiritual growth and

Discernment

- . He may answer our deepest needs for Him through suffering and trouble, but he will never give us more than we can handle, if we put our faith and trust in Him

The Golden Rule - Matthew 7:12

- . This command shows the interrelationship of all four sections of Matthew 7: 1-12
 - . We must move beyond self-righteous criticism, replacing it with understanding love, in order to see well enough to help others get rid of their specks
 - . We must be discerning in our love and understanding of non-Christians in order to better understand what God wants us to give them
 - . These tall orders can only be fulfilled through prayer
 - . Only when we hunger and thirst for righteousness will God feed us in a way that will allow us to feel mercy and understanding for others
 - . The only way to truly fulfill this command is to seek to love God first - Matthew 22: 37-38

NEXT LESSON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2008 - MATTHEW 7: 13-29, PLUS REVIEW OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (MATTHEW 5-7)

**SERMON ON THE MOUNT
MATTHEW 5 – 7**

SUBJECT: CHRIST OUTLINES FOR US NEW LIFE AS GOD'S BLESSED ONES

5 C's
DIVISION #1: OUR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHARACTER – MATTHEW 5: 1-12

- . POOR IN SPIRIT – MATTHEW 5: 3
- . MOURN – MATTHEW 5: 4
- . MEEK – MATTHEW 5: 5
- . HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS – 5:6
- . MERCIFUL – 5:7
- . PURE IN HEART – 5:8
- . PEACEMAKERS – 5:9
- . PERSECUTED – 5: 10-12

DIVISION #2: OUR CALLING – MATTHEW 5: 13 -16

- . TO BE SALT – 5: 13
- . TO BE LIGHT – 5: 14-16

**DIVISION # 3: CONTRAST OF CHRIST'S STANDARDS TO PHARISEE'S
MATTHEW 5:17 – 6:18**

- . CHRIST IS THE FUFILLMENT OF THE LAW – 5: 17-20
 - . REGARDING MURDER – 5: 21-26
 - . REGARDING ADULTERY – 5: 27-30
 - . REGARDING DIVORCE – 5: 31-32
 - . REGARDING LYING – 5: 33-37
 - . REGARDING RETALIATION – 5: 38-42
 - . REGARDING LOVE FOR OTHERS – 5: 43-48
 - . REGARDING GIVING – 6: 2-4
 - . REGARDING PRAYER – 6: 5-15
 - . REGARDING FASTING – 6: 16-18

DIVISION #4: OUR CONDUCT – MATTHEW 6: 19 – 7:12

- . WHAT DO WE LOVE – 6: 19-21
- . WHAT DO WE SEE – 6: 22-23
- . WHOM DO WE SERVE – 6:24

- . WHY DO WE WORRY – 6: 25-34
- . JUDGING OTHERS – 7: 1-5
- . PROTECTING WHAT IS SACRED – 7:6
- . PRAYING – 7: 7-11
- . THE GOLDEN RULE – 7:12

DIVISION #5: COUNTERFEITS TO BE AVOIDED – MATTHEW 7: 13-27

- . THE WRONG GATE – 7: 13-14
- . THE WRONG PROPHET – 7: 15-20
- . THE WRONG EMPHASIS – 7: 21-23
- . THE WRONG FOUNDATION – 7: 24-27



AIM: TO TRUST AND OBEY IN MY LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

**APPLICATION: #1: TO BECOME TOTALLY FAMILIAR WITH CHRIST'S
TEACHINGS IN THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT**

**#2: TO PRAY DAILY FOR MY HEART TO BE TRANSFORMED IN TO
THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST**

#3: TO LEARN TO TRUST THE LORD IN EVERY SITUATION