

Review

22. How would you define greed according to Luke 12:15-21?

Desire for things that becomes so strong that it crowds out spiritual priorities.

23. What are 4 reasons Jesus gave for warning against materialism in Luke 12:22-34?

- 1 - vv. 21-22 not rich toward God
- 2 - vv. 23-28 life consists more of things
- 3 - vv. 29-33 nations seek it
- 4 - v. 34 heart devoted to it

1. Why are we studying Worldliness?

1. Increase our alertness.
2. Repent of our evil influences.
3. Stay saved.

2. What is the definition of Worldliness and the Scripture we are using to define this word?

Practices, desires and attitudes of the world that are ungodly.

Tit. 2:12

5. What does Phil. 2:12 teach us about our salvation?

Requires work and the right attitude (fear and trembling)

Materialism

OBJECTIVE:

OPEN OUR EYES TO SEE THE
DANGER OF MATERIALISM IN OUR
LIVES.

Definition

THE VIEW THAT MAKES ACQUIRING AND PRESERVATION OF MATERIAL THINGS THAT WHICH CONSUMES ONE'S TIME, ENERGY, AND ACTIVITIES, CROWDING OUT OTHER PRIORITIES.

Seek First his Kingdom!

Luke 12:21-34

21 “So is the man who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” 22 And He said to His disciples, “For this reason I say to you, do not be **anxious** for your life, as to what you shall eat; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. 23 “For life is more than food, and the body than clothing. 24 “Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap; and they have no storeroom nor barn; and yet God feeds them; how much more valuable you are than the birds! 25 “And which of you by being **anxious** can add a single cubit to his life's span? 26 “If then you cannot do even a very little thing, why are you **anxious** about other matters? 27 “Consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; but I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory did not clothe himself like one of these. 28 “But if God so arrays the grass in the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you, O men of little faith!

- Highlight **attitude** toward material things.

29 “And do not seek what you shall eat, and what you shall drink, and do not keep **worrying**. 30 “For all these things the nations of the **world** **eagerly seek**; but your Father knows that you need these things. 31 “But seek for His kingdom, and these things shall be added to you. 32 “**Do not be afraid**, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom. 33 “Sell your possessions and give to charity; make yourselves purses which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near, nor moth destroys. 34 “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Mental Honesty

Matt. 6:19-24

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon 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 or steal;

21 for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

22 “The lamp of the body is the eye; if therefore your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.

23 “But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

- Highlight in different colors:

- ♦ treasures.

- ♦ eye.

- Is verse 19 true?

NO, PART OF “NOT/BUT”, EMPHASIS IS ON TREASURES IN HEAVEN.

- What is the eye?

MENTAL FACULTIES WHICH APPREHENDS DIVINE TRUTH AND GUIDES OUR LIFE.

- What does this phrase mean, “if therefore your eye is clear”?

TO BE MENTALLY HONEST, THINK CLEARLY BASED ON TRUTH AND HONESTY.

Be Ready!

Luke 12:35-40

35 “Be dressed in readiness, and keep your lamps alight.

36 And be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks.

37 Blessed are those slaves whom the master shall find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on them.

38 Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

39 And be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

40 You too, be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect.”

- Highlight the “ready” family of words (“readiness,” “waiting,” “on the alert,” etc.).

- Contextually (vv. 13ff), what threatens one’s readiness?

MATERIALISM

“Choked” Out!

Mark 4:7, 18-19

7 “And other seed fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. . .

18 “And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word,

19 and ¹ the worries of the world, and the ² deceitfulness of riches, and the ³ desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.”

- Number the three things Jesus said “chokes the word” so that men and women become “unfruitful.”

“Eat, Drink, Enjoy!”

Eccl. 5:18-6:9

18 Here is what I have seen to be good and fitting: to eat, to drink and enjoy oneself in all one's labor in which he toils **under the sun** during the few years of his life which God has given him; for this is his reward. 19

Furthermore, as for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, He has also empowered him to eat from them and to receive his reward and rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God. 20 For he will not often consider the years of his life, because God keeps him occupied with the gladness of his heart. 1 There is an evil which I have seen **under the sun**

and it is prevalent among men— 2 a man to whom God has given riches and wealth and honor so that his soul lacks nothing of all that he desires, but God has not empowered him to eat from them, for a foreigner enjoys them. This is vanity and a severe affliction.

- Highlight the “**under the sun**” and “**see the sun**” phrases.

3 If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, however many they be, but his soul is not satisfied with good things, and he does not even have a proper burial, then I say, "Better the miscarriage than he, 4 for it comes in futility and goes into obscurity; and **its name is covered in obscurity.** 5 "It **never sees the sun** and it never knows anything; it is better off than he. 6 "Even if the other man lives a thousand years twice and does not enjoy good things--do not all go to one place?" 7 All a man's labor is for his mouth and yet the appetite is not satisfied. 8 For what advantage does the wise man have over the fool? What advantage does the poor man have, knowing how to walk before the living? 9 What the eyes see is better than what the soul desires. This too is futility and a striving after wind.

“Eat, Drink, Enjoy!”

- In another color, mark the following phrases:
 - ✦ “to eat, to drink, and enjoy oneself”
 - ✦ “to eat from them and to receive his reward and rejoice in”
 - ✦ “to eat from them”
 - ✦ “satisfied”
 - ✦ “enjoy”
 - ✦ “appetite”
 - ✦ “satisfied”
 - ✦ “see
- Underline in the “not”s associated with these words.

“Eat, Drink, Enjoy!”

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“Eat, Drink, Enjoy!”

- What view toward life is commended in 5:18-20?

**ENJOY ONESELF IN
ONE'S LABOR.**


- What is the “evil” (bad, unfortunate, undesirable) circumstance of life the writer has “seen” to be “prevalent among men”?

**NOT ENJOYING THE FRUIT OF
YOUR LABOR.**

Wise Living

I Tim. 6:17-19

17 Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.



18 Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,

19 storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

- Draw a line to the word that shows why God gives us things.
- Circle “not” and “but.” Underline the phrases in v. 17 that describe the instructed believer’s focus in life.
- Vs. 18-19 show how this focus in life is carried out.

DO GOOD, BE RICH IN GOOD WORKS, READY TO SHARE

Concluding Observations

1. Robs of present fulfillment - Eccl. 6:1-9.
2. Blinds to spiritual priorities - Luke 12:20-21, 31-34.
3. Subversive to a peaceful society - 1 Ki. 21:1-24
(Ahab & Naboth; innocent man murdered).
4. Foolish futility - Luke 12:15; Matt. 6:27.
5. Bring spiritual death - Mark 7:22; 1 Cor. 6:10.
6. Proper view of blessings: Eccl 5:18-20; 1 Tim 6:17-19.