

***It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.***

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

***Standing on the Essence of God - -***

**Psalms 104:5** He established the earth upon its foundations, so that it will not totter forever and ever.

**Matthew 6:22-23**

“The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is **clear** [ἀπλοῦς – HAPLOUS – “healthy, sound”], your whole body will be full of light. <sup>23</sup> “But if your eye is **bad** [πονηρός – PONEROS – “in a poor condition, sick”], your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Here are a few things we need to understand about what the Lord is saying here - -

1. The eye was considered the window to the soul in the ancient world.
2. As such, it is a perceptive instrument of the soul.
3. The eye is designed to reflect that which it perceives.
4. As the lamp of the body, it is designed to reflect light.
5. If the eye is **clear** - “healthy” - then it will correctly perceive the **light** for what it is and reflect it.

**John 1:6-9**

There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to testify about the **Light**, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light. <sup>9</sup> There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.

- Who did John bear witness of?
- The **Light** is the living Word, Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 6:22 -**

“The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is **clear** [you accurately perceive who Jesus is] your whole body will be full of light.

- It will reflect the Light and life of your Savior, Jesus Christ.
- The eye is designed to reflect the light of Jesus Christ, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun.
- As you mature in your walk by the Spirit, and learn His ways with you - people will be able to see more of your Savior’s character reflected in you.
- That character is reflected in you **by** God the Holy Spirit when He is unhindered in fulfilling all that He was sent to do in your life.

<sup>23</sup> “But if your eye is **bad** [unhealthy, obstructed, sick], your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

**The Pharisees did not accurately perceive who Jesus Christ was!**

This is a scathing rebuke of the Pharisees.

- They have unhealthy eyes.
- They are spiritually ill.
- Their darkness and deception is great.

**Matthew 6:24** No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and **wealth**.

οὐ δύνασθε θεῷ δουλεῦν καὶ μαμωνᾷ

**Wealth** - μαμωνᾶς – MAMONAS – “wealth, property, anything of material value”

**\$UCCE\$\$**

*Serving the Lord is how one stores up treasures in heaven.*

**POD** - The one who is focused on [*occupied with or devoted to*] storing up earthly treasure is unable to serve God.

**Matthew 6:19-21** “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> “But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; <sup>21</sup> for where your treasure is, there your heart [**καρδια**] will be also.

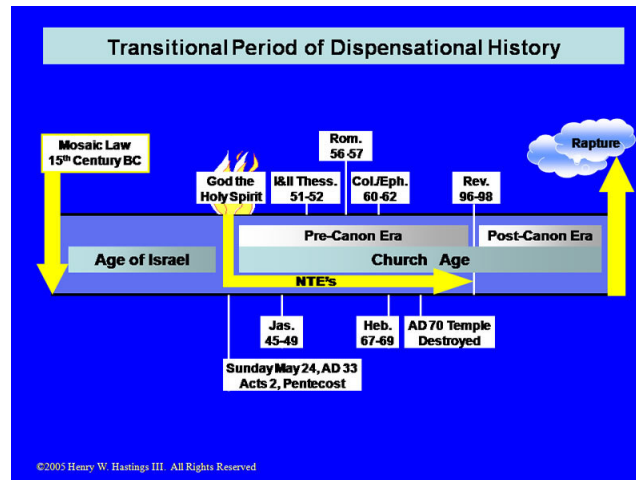
The key is your focus.

What are YOU devoted to?

What are YOU occupied with?

What is more important to YOU than anything in this world?

- The kingdom subject will store up heavenly treasure by fulfilling the will of the King through the work that the King has for him to do.



- The Church Age Believer stores up heavenly treasure by fulfilling the will of his Lord through the work that He has for him to do (*within the spiritual kingdom of the body of Christ*).
- What is one of the downsides to pursuing wealth as a Christian?

**1 Timothy 6:10** For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many **griefs**.

Lack of contentment  
Lack of joy



**Hebrews 13:5** *Make sure that* your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,”

**POD** - The Christian is to be content or satisfied with what he has (**Hebrews 13:5**).

- The key for you as a believer today is to learn how to be content in whatever circumstance you find yourself!
- Whether of humble means where you suffer need or having abundance

**Is God the Holy Spirit fulfilling all He came into your life to do?**

**1 Timothy 6:6-10**

But godliness (**εὐσέβεια**) is a means of great gain when accompanied by **contentment** [*fruit of the Spirit*]. <sup>7</sup> For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. <sup>8</sup> If we have food and covering, with these we shall be **content**. <sup>9</sup> But those who want to get rich (\$UCCE\$\$) fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

**Matthew 6:24** No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and **wealth**.

- The kingdom subject and Church Age Believer Priest should be devoted **to** and occupied **with** fulfilling God's will in its entirety for his life – serving God alone!

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**“If we are completely devoted to You and doing Your will, how are we to eat and clothe ourselves?”**

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**Matthew 6:25-34** “For this reason I say to you, **do not be worried** about your life, *as to* what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, *as to* what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> “Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and *yet* your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? <sup>27</sup> “And who of you by being worried can add a *single* hour to his life? <sup>28</sup> “And **why are you worried** about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. <sup>30</sup> “But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? **You of little faith!** <sup>31</sup> “**Do not worry** then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ <sup>32</sup> “For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

➤ **If you really believe God is providing for you, why would you worry?**

**POD** - The root of worry or anxiety is lack of faith in God to provide what you need as His child.

If your life is characterized by *worry* or *anxiety* the problem is your faith in God!

**POD** - The believer's life should be characterized as a walk of faith.

We are to walk by faith not by sight (**2 Corinthians 5:7**).

<sup>33</sup> "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

**POD** - God will always provide what you need when you need it.

Have you asked God for the things you need [*or think you need*]?

Do you pray with the faith commanded by the Word of God?

Are you living a life of TRUST and DEPENDENCE on God?

**Psalm 37:25** I have been young and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his descendants begging bread.

<sup>34</sup> "So **do not worry** about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

- A life of doing what God wants you to do must be lived by faith in the Lord to provide.
- Faith must be exercised in prayer to God.

*The Life of Trust*, George Mueller

**JOHN 14:13** WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME, THAT WILL I DO, SO THAT THE FATHER MAY BE GLORIFIED IN THE SON.

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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*