

STUDY #5:
Ecc. 5: 8-6:12 How Can We Be Content?

Riches vs. Treasure

MARK 10 ¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

²⁰ “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have **treasure in heaven**. Then come, follow me.”

²² At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because **he had great wealth**.

²³ Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for **the rich** to enter the kingdom of God!”

²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for **someone who is rich** to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

²⁸ Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!”

²⁹ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel³⁰ will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

MATTHEW 6 ¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves **treasures on earth**, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves **treasures in heaven**, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

²⁴ **“No one can serve two masters.** Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**

MATTHEW 13 ⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and **sold all he had and bought that field.** ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and **sold everything he had and bought it.**

MATTHEW 16 ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life ^[f] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ **What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?** Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

LOSE MY SOUL by TobyMac

Father God, I am clay in your hands. Help me to stay that way through all life's demands, 'Cause they chip and they nag and they pull at me And every little thing I make up my mind to be.

Like I'm gonna be a daddy whose in the mix.
And I'm gonna be a husband who stays legit.

And I pray that I'm an artist who rises above the road that is wide and filled with self-love. Everything that I see draws me. Though its only in You that I can truly see that its a feast for the eyes - a low blow to purpose. And I'm a little kid at a three ring circus.

I don't want to gain the whole world and lose my soul. Don't wanna walk away let me hear the people say. I don't want to gain the whole world and lose my soul. Don't wanna walk away let me hear the people say.

The paparazzi flashes and that they think that it's you. But they don't know that who you are is not what you do. True, we get it twisted when we peak at the charts Yo before we part from the start where's your heart? You're a pimp, hustler? Tell me what's your title. America has no more stars now we call them idols.

You sit idle. While we teach prosperity
The first thing to prosper should be inside of me
We're free.... Not because of 22's the a range
But Christ came in range we said yes now we change.
Not the same even though I made a fall
Since I got that call no more Saul now I'm Paul.

How do I sense the tide that's rising? De-sensitizing me from living in light of eternity. How do I sense the tide that's rising? It's hypnotizing me from living in light of eternity....

I don't want to gain the whole world, and lose my soul, Don't wanna walk away, let me hear the people say....

Lord forgive us when we get consumed by the things of this world, That fight for our love, and our passion, As our eyes are open wide and on you. Grant us the privilege of your world view. And may your kingdom be, what wakes us up, and lays us down.