**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Make Sure You Get the Real Thing |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Matthew 6:19-24 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1697 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. This is a plastic and phony world in which we live.
		1. Many of us have been lied to, manipulated, and deceived until we have a sales resistance built up.
		2. Yet, in spite of it all, many times we sell out too cheaply.
			1. We end up having the wrong thing.
	2. Matthew 6:19-24
	3. Today’s message will give us three basic truths that will help us to make sure that we get the real thing.
2. we must possess real wealth (matthew 6:19-20)
	1. We must possess real wealth if we would be successful in life.
	2. Matthew 6:19-20
	3. Many people who think that they are wealthy are not.
		1. A rich man is poor when he tries to find satisfaction in his money.
			1. Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, said that he who loves silver shall not be satisfied with silver.
				1. Ecclesiastes 5:10
			2. To not want something is better than owning it.
				1. Because you don’t have to maintain it.
			3. A rich man is a poor man when he tries to find satisfaction in what he has.
		2. A rich man is poor when his wealth increases his worry.
			1. Proverbs 15:6
			2. Many times, when someone increases his riches, his worries increase.
		3. A rich man is poor when he becomes a slave to his money.
			1. Proverbs 23:4
			2. If we set our goal to be wealthy, then we will have difficulty.
				1. Because when we set our goal to be wealthy, money becomes our master rather than our servant.
			3. It’s bad advice to tell a young person to make all the money he can, just as long as he makes it honestly.
				1. If we tell a person to do that, then he will make money when he should be doing something else, like spending time with his children, serving the Lord, etc.
		4. A rich man is poor when he has no treasure in Heaven.
			1. Proverbs 23:5
			2. Money talks; it says goodbye.
				1. You cannot keep it.
			3. If you don’t have any treasure in Heaven, then really, how rich are you?
				1. Everything that you have and that you think is yours in a material sense, sooner or later, you will leave.
			4. Money can only last so long, and then it goes.
		5. A rich man is poor if he dies a Christless death.
			1. Proverbs 11:4
				1. We will not bribe Heaven’s Judge.
			2. No matter how wealthy we are, our riches will not help us at the judgment if we don’t know the Lord Jesus Christ.
			3. Luke 16:22-23
			4. Matthew 6:19
			5. The devil takes the things of this world and wraps them up beautifully.
				1. When we open it, all we have is trash and not treasure.
	4. The Bible doesn’t say that it is wrong to have material things.
		1. 1 Timothy 6:17
		2. God doesn’t condemn us for being rich.
			1. He doesn’t mind us enjoying our wealth.
		3. Just don’t let it make you proud.
		4. Don’t put your trust there.
		5. Remember that it is a gift from God.
	5. When the Bible tells us not to lay up for ourselves treasure on Earth, it does not mean that we are not to work.
		1. Proverbs 6:6-8
			1. God says that we better learn how to work like an ant works.
	6. What does it mean when the Lord Jesus Christ says, “Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon Earth”?
		1. Matthew 6:19
			1. We don’t see it in the English language, but the word “treasure” is used twice in this verse.
				1. What it literally says is, “Stop treasuring treasure.”

That is when your money possesses you, rather than you possessing your money.

When you see wealth as an end in itself rather than a means to an end, you have begun to treasure treasure.

* + 1. When you treasure treasure, you really don’t have any treasure because it can be lost.
		2. Our Lord is not saying don’t have a treasure.
			1. He is saying do have a treasure, just make certain it’s a real treasure that you have.
				1. Get the real thing.
	1. To know how wealthy you are, add up everything you have that money cannot buy and death cannot take away.
	2. 1 Peter 1:4
		1. In this verse, Peter was talking about what we have in Heaven.
		2. The Lord spoke of that which the moths can eat, that rust can corrode, and that thieves can get.
			1. Matthew 6:20
			2. We better have a safety deposit box in Heaven where the foul breath of decay, the gnawing tooth of time, and some thief cannot get what belongs to us.
		3. “Incorruptible” and “undefiled” mean that it is not tainted wealth.
			1. It doesn’t have a curse upon it.
				1. No fees, no court costs, no taxes, and no inflation can take it away.
				2. It is reserved in Heaven for you.
	3. Jim Elliot said that no man is a fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.
		1. He was talking about treasure in Heaven.
	4. How can you have treasure in Heaven?
		1. Paul told Timothy that we are to lay up for ourselves a foundation against the time to come.
			1. 1 Timothy 6:19
		2. The only way that we can take our treasure and put it in Heaven is to invest in something going to Heaven.
			1. Praise goes to Heaven.
				1. We should praise the Lord.
			2. Souls go to Heaven.
				1. We should win souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.
				2. Invest your money in missions, in soul winning.
			3. When you invest your wealth in that which is going to Heaven, you don’t take it with you; you just send it on ahead.
			4. Would someone come to know Jesus Christ by looking at your bank statement?
				1. Would they have some idea as to where your treasure is?
	5. The Bible does teach us to take care of ourselves and to plan for our children and to leave an inheritance; but things can go wrong, and it can be lost.
		1. God is sovereign; He can do as He wishes.
			1. He did with Job.
		2. We can lose all that we have in this world.
	6. But the part that is in Heaven is reserved, and nobody can take it away.
		1. That is what the Lord Jesus Christ is talking about when He says to lay up for ourselves treasure in Heaven.
		2. We must possess real wealth.
1. we must perceive real wisdom (matthew 6:22-23)
	1. Matthew 6:22-23
	2. There are many people who think that they have wisdom, but they don’t have real wisdom.
		1. The light that is in them is darkness.
	3. Proverbs 4:4-7
		1. This is not talking about learning and intelligence.
		2. This is talking about wisdom.
			1. Make sure you get the real thing.
				1. Suppose you went to the university and made straight A’s, but you flunked in life.

Then, you have missed real wisdom.

* 1. Matthew 6:22-23
		1. When the Lord talks about the eye, He is not talking about the eye of the body; He is talking about the eye of the soul.
			1. He is talking about sight physically and insight spiritually.
			2. He uses the physical eye as an illustration because it is our physical eye that lets in the light.
				1. It’s the light that enables us to see.
				2. Our Lord here talks about the single eye and the sinful eye.
		2. The single eye
			1. A single eye is an eye that is healthy.
				1. It is focused on the Lord.
			2. 1 Corinthians 2:2
				1. No matter what else the Apostle Paul talked about, it was just more about Jesus.
			3. Everything centers in Jesus.
				1. We can go deeper into Christ, but we will never go beyond Christ.
			4. We need to be single-minded.
			5. Bring everything under the dominion of Jesus Christ.
				1. Make Him Lord of those things.

When we do, our bodies are full of light.

* + 1. The sinful eye
			1. The sinful eye is an eye with double vision.
				1. James 1:8
			2. The sad thing about a person with double vision is that he thinks that he sees.
				1. Matthew 6:23
				2. It’s bad when a person is in darkness and knows that he is in darkness.

But it is tragic when a person is in darkness and thinks that he is in light.

* + - 1. The book of Judges talks about a time of moral declination when every man did that which was right in his own eyes.
				1. Judges 17:6

He didn’t do what was wrong in his own eyes.

He did that which was right in his own eyes.

* + - * 1. The tragedy is that they were doing what they thought was right.

And they were so wrong.

* + - * 1. When the blind lead the blind, they both fall in the ditch.
				2. It is morality by majority rather than by the Word of God.

Matthew 6:23

* + - 1. Romans 1:22
				1. They said that they were walking in the light, but they were stumbling in the darkness.
	1. Wisdom is the principle thing.
		1. Knowledge is proud that it knows so much.
			1. Wisdom is humble that it knows so little.
		2. We need knowledge to pass the test in school.
			1. We need wisdom to pass the test of life.
		3. Knowledge is learned.
			1. Wisdom is given.
		4. Knowledge comes by looking around.
			1. Wisdom comes by looking up.
	2. Matthew 6:22
		1. Make certain you have real wisdom.
1. we must practice true worship (matthew 6:24)
	1. Matthew 6:24
		1. “Mammon” here is a word for “possession”.
		2. Mammon came to be the god of wealth and personal possessions.
		3. Jesus was not saying that we ought not to try to have two masters.
			1. He was talking about an impossibility.
				1. We cannot serve two masters.
			2. This is not talking about having two jobs or two employers.
		4. The word for “master” here is the word for “lord, a slave owner”.
			1. This is not talking about somebody that you serve in the sense of your willingness.
		5. You cannot be a slave to two masters anymore than you can walk in different directions at the same time.
	2. There is one absolute Lord, and His name is Jesus.
		1. Jesus doesn’t want a place in your life.
		2. Jesus doesn’t want prominence in your life.
		3. Jesus demands preeminence in your life.
			1. He is Lord.
			2. That means no rival, no refusal, and no rebuttal.
	3. If you don’t want to be a slave to the Lord Jesus, then you will never know what Christianity is.
		1. You will never know the freedom that comes through absolute slavery to the Lord Jesus.
		2. When you bow the knee to Jesus Christ and say that He is Lord of all, then Jesus said that the Son will make you free, and you will be free indeed.
			1. John 8:36
	4. You may not want to be anyone’s slave, but you already are someone’s slave.
		1. He that serves sin is the slave of sin.
			1. John 8:34
		2. You may do as you want, but you will never do as you are.
		3. You are free to do as you want, but you are not free to do as you should until you become a slave of Jesus Christ.
		4. If you are not a slave of Jesus Christ, then you are a slave and servant of Satan.
	5. Make sure it is real worship that you get.
		1. Many people think that going to church on Sunday is worship.
			1. Then, they go back out into the world, and they try to serve God and mammon.
				1. They cannot do it.
				2. Our God is not a moonlighting God; He doesn’t have a duplex for a throne.
		2. There is one God.
			1. Matthew 4:10
			2. If He is not Lord in the true sense of the word, then you don’t have the real thing.
				1. We must practice true worship.
2. CONCLUSION
	1. Make certain that it is the real thing that you get.
		1. Real treasure
			1. You will never lose it.
		2. Real wisdom
			1. Your body will be full of light.
		3. Real worship
			1. Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.
	2. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	3. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16