

Lesson VII.

WORLDLINESS AND TRUST

February 13, 1910

Matthew 6 : 19-34—Memory Verse, 24.

Golden Text—Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness ; and all these things shall be added unto you.—Matthew 6 : 33.



19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal :

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal :

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

22 The light of the body is the eye : if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness !

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

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink ; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment ?

26 Behold the fowls of the air : for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns ; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they ?

27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature ?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment ? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow ; they toil not, neither do they spin :

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the

oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith ?

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat ? or, What shall we drink ? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed ?

32 (For after all these things do the Gen'tiles seek :) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness ; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow : for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

THE LESSON RETOLD

There are few people in the world who do not care for money, and yet Jesus told His disciples that they must not long to be rich, neither must they lay up treasures for themselves on earth, but in heaven. Jesus meant by this, that they should be trying always to live so that at last they would go to heaven itself, and in heaven there would be more things to make them happy, than all the money in the world could buy.

He said, at the same time, "You cannot serve God and Mammon." Now Mammon was the heathen god of riches, and Jesus meant, they could not love and serve the true God, as they ought, with all their hearts, and at the same time set their hearts on getting all the money they could.

Jesus also told His disciples not to be troubled about what they should eat or wear. The birds of the air, He said, did not sow nor

reap, and yet the heavenly Father fed and cared for them. And were not His children worth much more than the birds ? And why should they worry about clothes ? They should think of the lilies of the field ; these do not toil or labor, and yet God has clothed them in such bright colors, that even all Solomon's glory is not to be compared to their beauty.

"Wherefore", said Jesus, "if God so clothes the grass of the field, which to-morrow will be withered and cast away, shall He not much more clothe you, His own children ? So do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we have to eat or to drink or to put on ?' For your heavenly Father knows you have need of all these things, and will give you everything that is for your good.

"Think first of the kingdom of God and of pleasing God by serving Him, and He