

# THE BIBLE INDICATOR.

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## LAYING UP TREASURE IN HEAVEN.

(From the Christian Pioneer.)

We have here a most important admonition from our Savior to his Apostles, in reference to the acquisition of wealth and accumulation of property by Christians, in this world. We say, *Christians now*, because we are informed, in the New Testament, that as these things were *addressed* to the disciples of Christ, they are written "for our admonition," or benefit. The Jews—including even the Apostles of Christ—interpreting the prophecies *literally*, in reference to the Christian Dispensation—had conceived the idea of a splendid, *secular* empire, in which riches and wealth would have their influence, and *earthly* power and rank take precedence over every thing else! But the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world, not to command armies, not to establish a political empire, not to wield the sceptre of universal monarchy and dominion; but to establish a *Spiritual* kingdom—an empire founded upon TRUTH, *justice* and *righteousness*—and by reigning over the *minds* and *hearts* of men, to subdue their unholy passions, sensual desires and fleshly propensities; and thus to bring the outward

world in subjection to himself. Hence, in his teaching, he began to undeceive the minds of his Apostles, in reference to the nature and character of the kingdom he came to establish on earth; as we find, after Peter had made the *confession*, on the coasts of *Cesarea Philippi*, that He was "*the Christ, the Son of the living God*," He "*began*," from that time forth, "to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto *Jerusalem*, and *suffer* many things of the elders and chief priest and scribes, and be *killed*, and be raised again the third day." But so much was this against all their preconceived notions about his kingdom, that entirely overlooking his prediction of his resurrection; "Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying. Be it *far from thee* Lord: this *shall not be unto thee*." Jesus had just promised him "*the keys of the kingdom of heaven*," and expecting no doubt to occupy a conspicuous position in that kingdom—a highly exalted and honorable place in it—perhaps that of Premier, or Minister of State—he could not bear the idea of the *death* of his Divine Master, though he was to rise again!" Our Saviour replied to him: "Get thee behind me, adversary: thou art an offence unto me; for thou savorest not the things that be