

Sunday, November 27, 2022

Heart

---

## The Gift of Generosity

Heart.

I have never met a generous Christian who wasn't rich in things you can't buy.

The things we desire are really a pursuit of things we can't buy.

Vacations—> rest. Who usually needs a vacation after their vacation. Joy?

Retirement, a nice car, a big house... maybe an ocean view, The new iPhone, a Gucci purse, etc...

All are things we desire to get something they usually don't provide; joy, affirmation, rest, love, acceptance, identity, purpose. These are all found in Christ. When they are not, and we seek these things from things, we switch the order of the way we were created and prioritize creation over the creator. How do we keep this in check? By being generous.

My main point is **"be rich in things you can't buy"**

### **Read vs. 19-20, What is "spiritual treasure"?**

*"Spiritual treasure should be defined as broadly as possible—as everything that believers can take with them beyond the grave—e.g., holiness of character, obedience to all of God's commandments, souls won for Christ, and disciples nurtured in the faith."* New American Commentary<sup>1</sup>

These are the rewards we achieve on that great and glorious day! When you get your home that Jesus, who I hear is a good carpenter, is preparing for you. He won't give you a key to your new home because it's heaven. No locks needed since no one will steal. What a great day that will be... Jesus' point is live for that day; **"be rich in things you can't buy"**

---

<sup>1</sup> Blomberg, C. (1992). *Matthew* (Vol. 22, p. 123). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

Jesus wants your heart. By faith we believe he dwells in hearts.

So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17-19

**Read vs. 21** Want to know what you value? Follow what you treasure.

**Read vs. 24,** This isn't a message about giving as much as it is dethroning greed in your heart, or covetousness, or idolatry. **Jesus is LORD.** He dwells in your heart and he is NOT one to share his throne.

God doesn't need your money. He's pretty content with what he has... So when the Bible addresses money, it's not wanting something *from* you, it's addressing what he wants *for* you... **"Be rich in things you can't buy"**

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:5

If God is with us, AND for us, why would we fear? It comes down to FAITH. Do you believe Jesus will never leave you or forsake you? Then be free to be generous, and be **rich in things you can't buy.**

One way to be generous is to give to the local church.

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

When we do, we receive more.

You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11

**"Be rich in things you can't buy"**

How do we give?

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce;  
Proverbs 3:9

We are called to grow in our giving.

But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. 2 Corinthians 8:7 (NIV)

Is giving a gift? Yes.

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them... the one who contributes, in generosity; Romans 12:6,8

**Read Matthew 6:25-34**

**"Be rich in things you can't buy"**

**Communion**