

# THE GREAT RETURN

MATTHEW 6:19-34



## If you want a great return ...

vv. 19-21

### I. Invest in something completely safe that guarantees a high yield.

- A. All \_\_\_\_\_ investment strategies have ever-present pitfalls. (vv. 19-20)
- B. Investing in the \_\_\_\_\_ provides the highest return because it changes who you are. (v. 21)

vv. 22-24

### II. Beware of the spiritual blindness that comes from materialism's glitter.

- A. Blinded \_\_\_\_\_ cannot see that they covet money and wealth. (vv 22-23)
- B. We fail to \_\_\_\_\_ God when our aim is to serve riches and security. (v. 24)

vv. 25-34

### III. Serve the true Master—He will take care of the ordinary needs of your life.

- A. When we're concerned about material things, we never learn to live by \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 25-32)
- B. God wants us to worship Him and seek \_\_\_\_\_, and He will meet our needs. (vv. 33-34)

#### COMMON GIVING FALLACIES PEOPLE BELIEVE

- "Giving to kingdom causes is not linked to any other area of my life."
- "The preacher only addresses money when the church is behind on bills."
- "The amount is what's important to God."
- "Giving is a burdensome act of the law that we obey to make God happy."
- "You can never give enough."

#### SIGNS THAT YOUR EYES ARE DIMMED BY MATERIALISM

- |                   |                        |                       |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>insecurity</i> | <i>enslavement</i>     | <i>anxiety</i>        |
| <i>bitterness</i> | <i>disillusionment</i> | <i>ungratefulness</i> |

#### TO INVEST FOR MAXIMUM RETURNS ...

- Give proportionately according to your means (2 Cor 8:11-12)*
- Give systematically and intentionally (1 Cor 16:2)*
- Give joyfully (2 Cor 9:7)*

## THE GREAT PAYOFF

**A changed \_\_\_\_\_**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ from the grip of materialism**  
**A life of faith and \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus**

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive." JESUS, ACTS 20:35*

1. What aspect of materialism's glitter do you tend to find especially attractive, and how did you come to this realization?

2. Read Matthew 6:19-34. Why are Jesus' words such a radical departure from what the world tells us about how we should live?

*"Scripture has a tremendous amount to say about money or material possessions. Sixteen of thirty-eight parables of Jesus deal with money. One out of every ten verses in the New Testament deal with that subject. Scripture has 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but over 2,000 verses on the subject of money. This is obviously important, but why? Because a person's attitude or bearing toward money is so determinative on his relationship with God, on the fulfillment of his purpose in this life, and on the character of his life."*

J. Hampton Keathley, III

*"How could we enjoy heaven if during our lifetime we had used most of our time, treasure, and talents for ourselves?"*

Daniel Fuller

*"Material wealth is either a window through which we see God or a mirror in which we see ourselves."*

Warren Wiersbe

3. Why does Jesus tell us not to worry? What does admonition say about the character of God? What does He want us to do instead?

4. What does it look like to "seek the Kingdom of God" in practical terms? What help did this sermon give you?

5. Would you say that your giving is motivated by guilt, by compulsion, or by joy? Describe what giving looks like for each of these, and the condition of their heart. What counsel would you give to them?

6. As the Lord periodically brings before our fellowship opportunities to preach the gospel to more people, there will always be calls to invest in His work financially. Have you decided to participate in His kingdom-building work, or must a change happen in your heart that only He can bring about?

Close in prayer.

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.cbcfamily.org/events](http://www.cbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

### GET YOUR CANTATA RESERVATION

**REMINDERS TODAY!** The Christmas Cantata is a worship service that tells the story of Christ's birth through spectacular music. Get your Reservation Reminders for this year's service, "Sing Christmas," today in the Great Room or Atrium, and then invite your family, friends and co-workers to join you on Saturday, Dec. 1 or Sunday, Dec. 2.

### YOU'RE INVITED TO TODAY'S TA ETHNE

**MISSIONS LUNCHEON.** We're marking International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church by getting to know pastors who live and work in a country hostile to Christianity. Hear their experiences and how you can support them at 12:15 p.m. in the Oak Room.

### ELDER PRAYER FOR HEALING AND

**ENCOURAGEMENT IS TONIGHT.** If you are carrying a heavy burden, are sick or need a personal word of encouragement, our Elders and their wives would love to pray with you. Meet them at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES

**ARE DUE TOMORROW, NOV. 19.** Thank you for helping spread the joy of Jesus to children around the world! Be sure to drop off your filled boxes today in the Great Room, Atrium or Link Building. Need one more day? Turn in your boxes tomorrow in the Link Building!

### DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR WOMEN'S

**CHRISTMAS BRUNCH TICKETS.** Ladies, kick off the season and share the gospel with a friend at brunch on Saturday, Dec. 1. Happening at 10 a.m. at Will Rogers Round Up Inn, the brunch includes friends, spectacular décor, a message that points us to Jesus and a fun holiday market. Buy your tickets, \$20 each, at the Women's Kiosk or at [www.cbcfamily.org/events](http://www.cbcfamily.org/events).

### PICK AN ANGEL FROM THE ANGEL TREE

**NEXT SUNDAY, NOV. 25.** The Angel Tree Ministry is a program of Prison Fellowship that brings the gospel and Christmas gifts to children who have one or more incarcerated parents. If you'd like to provide Christmas gifts for a child this holiday season, visit the Angel Tree in the Great Room next week. Want to help deliver the presents? Contact the team at [AngelTree@christchapelbc.org](mailto:AngelTree@christchapelbc.org).

### LOOKING FOR MORE HOLIDAY INFO?

We've put everything you need in one place—[www.cbcfamily.org/holidays2018](http://www.cbcfamily.org/holidays2018). Head there for ideas on how to serve, fun Christ Chapel events, worship services and more.

### YOU'LL LOVE MONDAY MORNING

**MOTIVATORS.** Wish you could get personal advice for sharing the gospel? You can! Monday Morning Motivators are short videos that teach you tips and insight for how to start those conversations. Just download the Christ Chapel App (from the App Store or Google Play) and turn on your notifications—we send a new video through the app every Monday.