

Seeking 1st

- *But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*
Mt. 6:33-34

- Where are our true priorities?
- Is the kingdom our first and highest goal?
- The most important?
- What is the basis of your answer?
- First – Compared to what?

What do we Seek 2nd?

- If we want to know what is **first**, we must carefully consider what we seek that's **second!**
- What is seeking first?
- Time, money, thoughts, goals, plans, memories
- Look at your bank credit card statements
- Look at your schedule
- Look at your entertainment, hobbies and work.
- Look at your friends and family
- Look at your goals and priorities.
- With a clear picture of how we divide up our time and money we will find our answer

A Parable of Priorities

● *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

Matt 13:44

● *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Mt 6:21*

● That is seeking 1st His kingdom and righteousness

● Pau suffered the loss of all things count them rubbish

● What about us?

● Where are our treasures?

● What have we sold?

● What have we kept?

● What have we bought back after selling all?

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord(433)

- *I love Thy kingdom Lord the house of Thine abode*
- *The church our blest Redeemer saved with His own precious blood*
- *I love Thy church O God! Her walls before Thee stand*
- *Dear as the apple of Thine eye and graven on Thy hand*
- *For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend;*
- *To her my cries and toils be given Till toils and cares shall end.*
- *Beyond my highest joy, I prize her heavenly ways*
- *Her sweet communion, solemn vows, Her hymns of love and praise.*
- *Can we make melody with this in our heart? Does it strike a chord deep within, flooding our soul with emotion?*

Have we shifted our Priorities

- Mt. 6:19-20

Spiritual treasures

Heavenly / Spiritual Treasures?

● *"Do not lay up for yourselves **treasures on earth**, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For **where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** Mt. 6:19-21*

● How does our retirement / savings compare to our giving?

● What provisions have we made before we die to put these treasures 1st so they will be in heaven?

● Do we give on their contributions and interest?

● Will we leave any of it for the Lord?

What we Seek 1st – Easy to Answer



Have we shifted our Priorities

- Mt. 6:19-20 Spiritual treasures
- 1Tim. 4:7-8 Spiritual exercise

Spiritual Exercise?

- *But reject profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise yourself toward godliness.** 8 For **bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things,** having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. 9 This **is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.** ... 11 **These things command and teach.** 1Tim 4:7-11*
- When we think of exercise...
- How often do we exercise ourselves to godliness?
- Do we even know how to do it?

Have we shifted our Priorities

- Mt. 6:19-20 Spiritual treasures
- 1Tim. 4:7-8 Spiritual exercise
- John 6:27-29 Spiritual food

Spiritual Food?

- *Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him." Jn 6:27-29*
- *But He answered and said, "It is written, '**Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.**'" Mt 4:4*
- *I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; **I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food.** Job 23:12*
- Do we hunger and thirst for righteousness?

Have we shifted our Priorities

- Mt. 6:19-20 Spiritual treasures
- 1Tim. 4:7-8 Spiritual exercise
- John 6:27-29 Spiritual food
- 1Pet. 3:3-4 Spiritual adornment

Spiritual Adornment?

- *Do not let your adornment be merely outward — arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel — 4 rather **let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.** 5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror. 1 Peter 3:3-6*

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- 1Tim. 4:7-8 Spiritual exercise
- John 6:27-29 Spiritual food
- 1Pet. 3:3-4 Spiritual adornment
- Mt. 6:10 Lk 22:42 God's will not ours.

God's Will not ours?

● *And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, 42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless **not My will, but Yours, be done.**" 43*

Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. 44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. Lk. 22:41-44

● *Your kingdom come. **Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.** Mt. 6:10*

● *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but **he who does the will of My Father in heaven.** Mt 7:21-22*

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- 2Cor. 4:16-18 Unseen not seen

Seen or Unseen?

- *Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while **we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.** 2 Cor 4:16-5:1*
- How much time do we spend looking at the unseen?
- How much time spent on the seen? TV vs Scripture?

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- Heb. 11:13-16 Strangers & Pilgrims

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Stranger & Pilgrim?

● *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Heb 11:13-16*

This world is not My Home (230)

- *This world is not my home, I'm just a passing thru.*
- *My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue*
- *The angels beckon me from heavens open door*
- *And I can't feel at home in this world anymore.*
- Does this song resonate in our soul?
- Do we sing it with melody in our heart?
- Does it fill our hearts with joy and longing

They are not of the World

- *They are not of the world for I am not of the world.*
- Jesus' kingdom is not of this world. Jn.18:36
- Our citizenship is in heaven. Phil. 3:20-21
- Seek the things above where Christ is. Col. 3:1-4
- Not yet revealed what we shall be 1Jn. 3:1-3
- Mt Zion/heavenly Jerusalem. Heb. 12:22-23; 28-29
- Not conformed but transformed Rom. 12:1-3
- crucified to this the world Gal. 6:14
- We died to the world Col. 2:20

The World is Always 2nd

- *Nothing in and nothing out. 1Tim. 6:7*
- *Keep unspotted from world Jas. 1:27*
- *Friendship with world enmity with God Jas. 4:4*
- *Escaped corruption in world through lust. 2Pet. 1:4*
- *Never entangled in it again. 2Pet. 2:20*
- *Don't love the world. 1Jn. 2:15-17*

A Charge to Keep I Have (201)

- A charge to keep I have,
- A God to glorify.
- A never dying soul to save,
- And fit it for the sky.

- To serve the present age,
- My calling to fulfill.
- O may it all my powers engage,
- To do my Father's will.