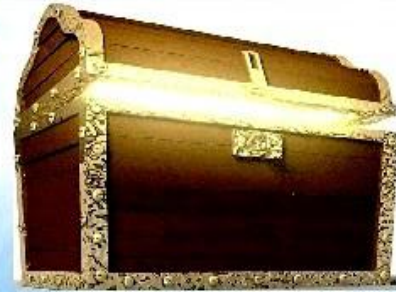




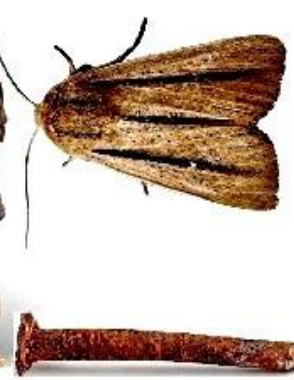
- Matthew 6:19 and then into chapter 7 deals with social issues, beginning with money and wealth
- The context is necessarily 1st century Jewish society
- Yeshua does not condemn wealth
- Issues are 1) how much of our focus on material wealth and 2) what to do with what we acquire
- “Treasure” means the things we deem most valuable

IS WEALTH OUR SCORECARD?

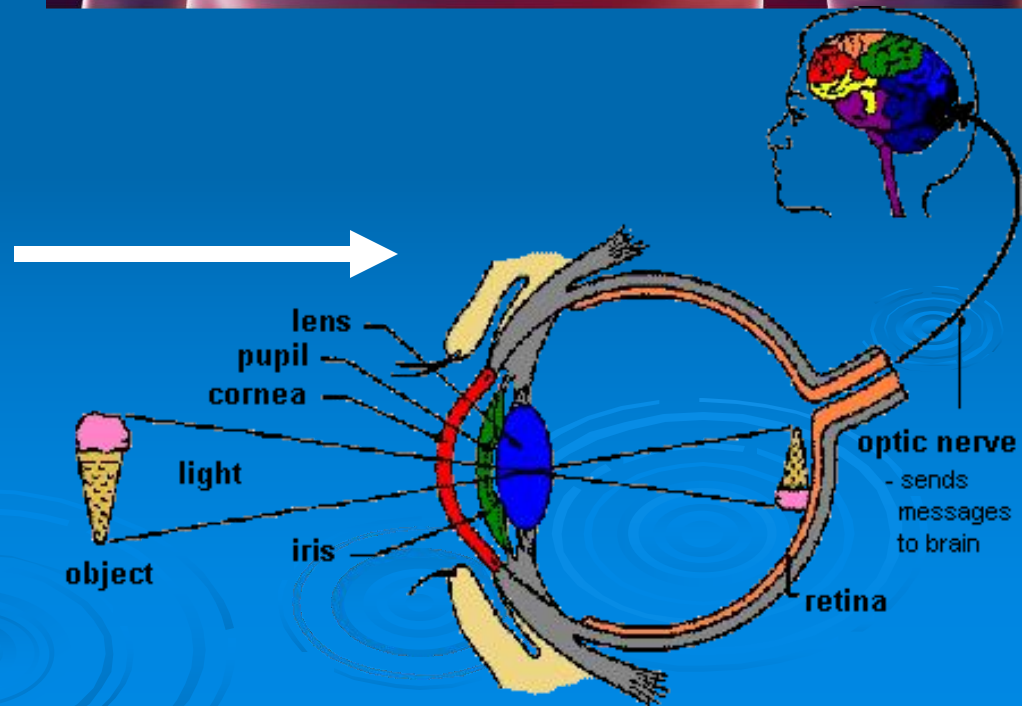
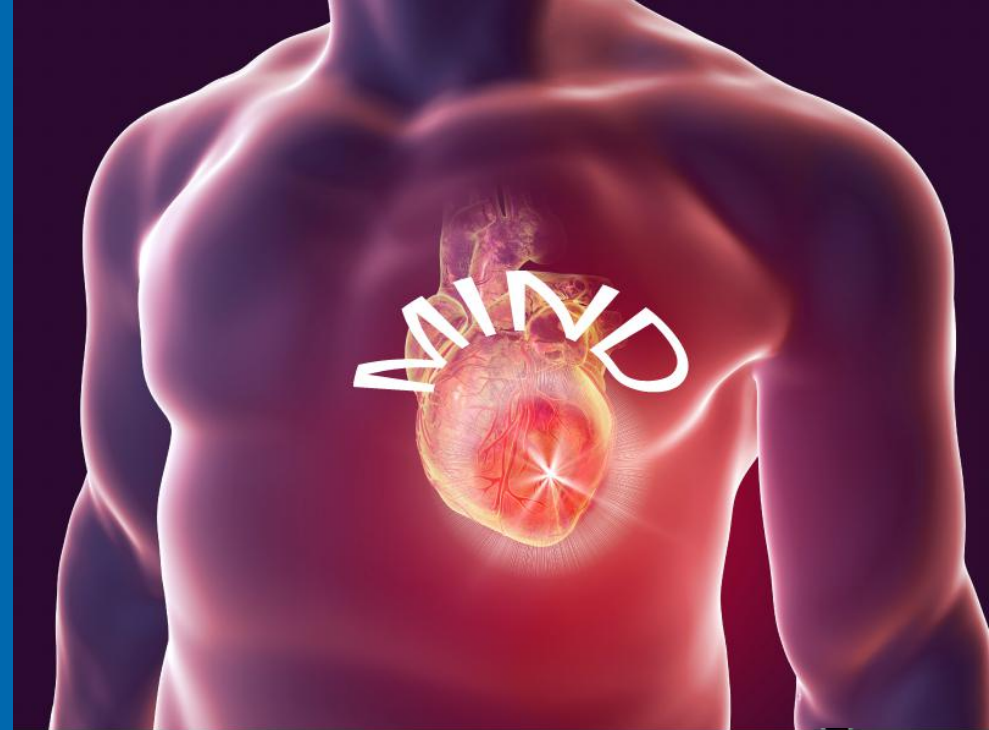
- Jesus says that earthly wealth should NOT be the measure of our life's success
- How do we store up treasures in Heaven?
- Our righteous deeds of mercy, justice & truth
- This is something the poorest humans can do
- Heavenly treasure is accumulated by our doing righteous deeds on earth



Matthew 6:19-21



- Vs. 20: “For where your wealth is, there your heart will be also”
- Better: “For where your wealth is, there your mind will be also”
- Vs. 22: “The eye is the lamp of the body”
- Usually taught that the eye is a portal where light is channeled to the brain
- While true, this was not known until 1500 A.D.



The Eye is the Lamp of the Body

Matthew 6:22

- Whatever this meant to the Jews in front of Christ is what it ought to mean to us
- It is an expression, and is not found in the OT
- The belief was that the eye produced its own light
- Dan. 10:6, Rev. 1:14
- A lamp emits light when lit, but it can also be dark
- Good eye = generous
- Evil eye = stingy



- *P'shat* sense = a Jewish Proverb that indicated that if one's eye was good, he was operating in the proper spirit by loving His fellow man
- But if one's eye was evil, he was NOT operating in the proper spirit
- *Remez* sense = a good eye means operating in a righteous manner that matters in the spiritual eternity
- Bottom line: Our generosity or stinginess is a determining factor in our status in our spiritual eternity

Mammon Money



- Matt. 6:24 “*No one can be a slave to two masters.....*”
- Is it “money” or is it “mammon”?
- Mammon taken from Latin word mammona
- Originally it meant any type of wealth, and was a neutral term
- The 5th century Church altered the meaning to negative (evil)
- Yeshua was NOT saying that wealth was inherently bad

NO MAN CAN SERVE

TWO MASTERS

(Matthew 6:24)



- Vs. 24 switches to the relationship between money and God
- Yeshua says it is impossible to serve two masters
- “Sure I can! I can walk and chew gum”
- Love and hate meant loyal and disloyal
- Yeshua is NOT speaking against material gain
- He is saying that trying to serve two masters means you are trying to become your own master

PROSPERITY NOW SCORECARD

- The Prosperity Doctrine says the more wealth you have, it indicates the more faithfulness you have to God
- God says we can't have it both ways: CHOOSE!
- Believers are to give of our wealth, but we must be generous in both mind and in behavior
- Christ was not developing new rules about wealth
- Luke 7:34
- All the old rules and commands still apply, but they must be taken in light of the sudden arrival of The Kingdom of God

do not be
worried
about
your life

Matthew 6:25



My child,
**YOU WORRY
TOO MUCH.**
i've got this, remember?
Love,
God

- 1Peter 5:7
- Christ answers a question many in the crowd must have thought
- If I spend all my time serving God, how do I provide for my family?
- Matthew views Yeshua as a kind of second Moses
- Like Moses who did not have an answer for how the Israelites would be provided for, Christ also does not say
- "Follow me". The people believe and trust....or not



- Christ acknowledges that it is human to worry
- Only faith in the Lord is the balm that soothes & calms
- The choice: shall worry & anxiety be our master or shall it be faith in God as the ruler of our thoughts ??
- Food, clothing, and drink are representative of all of our normal needs
- Christ uses examples from nature because they and the spiritual are cut from the same cloth. One explains the other

- *Kal V'homer* = light vs. heavy
- If God sent His Son to die for us, won't He have more care for humans than birds and plants?
- If worry is bad for us, why do we do persist in it?
- "What little trust you have!"
- Pagans have great worry over "all these things"
- "*Seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness.....*"
- His righteousness = His will to save
- Anxiety is fruitless because God's will is inevitable

LOOK AT THE BIRDS



they do not
sow or reap or store away
in barns, and yet your
heavenly Father feeds them.

**Are you not much more
valuable than they?**

Matthew 6:26