

INVESTING FOR ETERNITY WITH 100% GROWTH

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MATHEW 6:19,20

- ⦿ ***“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be”.***

SELF EVALUATION

- ◉ We begin with three illustrations, two are visual.



INTRODUCTION

While I was in school back in India, I learnt a Malayalam Poem that came to my mind while preparing for this lesson.

It goes like this.....

**“Ravippol shanam angu odumgidum,
ushasengum prakashikkum, neram
sooryanudikkum, ee kanthavum kaale
vidarneedume.” (Lotus flower)**

INTRODUCTION

Some one said: The only time a Pig looks up is when it is dead. Otherwise it is always Looking down to the earth.



“DO NOT LAY UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES ON EARTH, WHERE MOTH AND RUST DESTROY AND WHERE THIEVES BREAK IN AND STEAL; BUT LAY UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES IN HEAVEN WHERE NEITHER MOTH NOR RUST DESTROYS AND WHERE THIEVES DO NOT BREAK IN AND STEAL. FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL ALSO BE”. MAT.6:19
THESE ARE THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

- What are the fundamentals for a Christian to consider investing in eternity?
 - There must be a good understanding of eternity. ***The Lord said “but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.” Mat.6:20***
 - There must be a good understanding that life on earth is short and it’s a pilgrimage, ***“Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, “ 1 Peter 2:11***

INTRODUCTION

- This was true of Old Testament believers. ***“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.” Hebrews 11:13***
- There must be a good understanding of the person with whom we invest. We read in the scripture: ***“And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True” Rev.19:11***

PURPOSE IN LIFE

◎ Purpose in life:

- Purpose in life is the foundation of this study.
- ◎ Let us look first, at an example of a man who had every opportunity and resources in life to live a life that's worth living for.
- ◎ That is king Saul of Israel. 1 Samuel ch.10

PURPOSE IN LIFE

- Because he was a king, he had _____ power
- He had _____ (Prestige)
- He had _____ (Wealth/Finance)
- He had _____ (Good Health)
- He had _____ (Best Food)
- He had _____ (A Palace to live)
- He had _____ (Servants)
- He had _____ (Wife and children)

PURPOSE IN LIFE

- ⦿ Above all, eternal God was available for his strength, help and guidance to rule well.
- ⦿ What did Saul do ?
- ⦿ He used all his resources to go after a man whom God had ordained to be king.
- ⦿ He simply wasted his life due to wrong priorities, no definite purpose in life, and no understanding of his call and responsibility.

PURPOSE IN LIFE

- ⦿ **What is the number one spiritual enemy for believers living in 21st century ?**
- ⦿ **Wrong priorities**
- ⦿ King Saul had wrong priorities and ended his life by committing suicide during a war with Philistines. We read in 1 Sam. 31:1- 6 “*Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it*” and killed himself.
- ⦿ If you notice in the history of life of Saul, he almost always acted according to his feelings of the moment, instead of seeking the mind of God.

PURPOSE IN LIFE

- ◉ Now, let us look at the life of another man who had the same resources given by God.
- ◉ That is King David.
- ◉ Notice, David has everything, exactly the same as it was given to King Saul.
- ◉ While the life of Saul was a failure, David's life was the most fruitful, God honoring, which had eternal value. 1 King 2:10,11 *"David rested with his fathers.... The period that David reigned over Israel was forty years."*
- ◉ David's priorities were right.
- ◉ David's character and his rule was a reference point for many of his successors.

PURPOSE IN LIFE

- ◉ David sought the mind of God in almost all major decision in his life.
- ◉ David invested his financial resources for the building of the temple.
- ◉ We read in 1 King 7:51 “... *Solomon brought in the things which his father David had dedicated; the silver and the gold and the furnishings. He put them in the treasuries of the house of the Lord.*”

RESOURCES IN LIFE

- Resources in life
- What are the three major resources in life you can invest in eternity?
- Time
- Wealth / Treasure
- Health / Talent
- The needs among God's people are two-fold
 - (a) Spiritual needs
 - (b) Physical/financial needs.
- How many of you have spent a lot of TIME on something, or someone and at the end you felt that it was a waste of time? Or at least you felt that it did not produce the result as you expected.

RESOURCES IN LIFE

- ⦿ How many of you have invested MONEY on something, or someone and at the end you felt that it was a waste? Or at least you felt that it did not produce the result as you expected.
- ⦿ How many of you used your HEALTH AND ENERGY on something or for someone and at the end you felt it was a waste of your health?

RESOURCES IN LIFE

- Let us take each of these resources and look closer.
- **Time:**
- All of us have 24 hours in a day.
- What percentage of time do we spend on things that has NO eternal value?
- What percentage of time do we spend on things that has eternal value?
- What can we do to improve that imbalance in the above percentage?

RESOURCES IN LIFE ...

- ⦿ Practical suggestions:
 - ⦿ Invest your time in someone, or some family. Visit, help, counsel, pray for them. This will have eternal result and they in turn will use their life for someone else.
 - ⦿ What other practical suggestions you may have ?

RESOURCES IN LIFE

○ **Here are few suggestions:**

- There are needs in your local meetings both physical and spiritual areas. Volunteer your time in helping with the physical needs of your chapel/church.
- There were many prayer warriors in the past. One can always spend time in prayer for those whom they know. Those hours you spend has eternal value.

RESOURCES IN LIFE

○ Here are few suggestions:

- There are missionaries laboring in the field who long to have fellowship with other believers. They often feel lonely or in some cases discouraged due to difficult circumstances in the field. A phone call, an email, a letter or a short visit will greatly encourage them in the work of the Lord.
- Each year separate a few days to take short term mission trips. You don't have to be a Bible teacher or preacher. Mission fields can use you in many ways. At least your visit will only encourage missionaries serving in other parts of the world.

RESOURCES IN LIFE

- **Wealth:**
- What are the sources of wealth given to us by the Lord?
- Money
 - **What percentage of money do we spend that has eternal value?**
 - **How much money do we spend in food, pleasures that are temporary and will not last?**
 - **Do you know that there are believers in many parts of the world who do not have the very basics of life, while we waste our money on luxuries and perishables which has no eternal value?**
 - **Recently we found out that there are at least 200+ assemblies in India without a meeting place and are struggling to exist. They can build a small meeting place with about \$10,000 in most cases.**

RESOURCES IN LIFE

- **How many of you have visited places anywhere in the world where you have seen such needs, or perhaps heard from others?**
- **What did you do about it?**
- **Christians often say that if they knew missionaries who are financially struggling, they will be happy to send help. Today, there are numerous sources of information available about these needs.**
- **Through various sources in India, we understand that there are poor assembly believers who cannot send their children to schools and colleges.**
- **Widows of believers and missionaries are not well taken care of in many places.**

RESOURCES IN LIFE

◎ Property

- **Many believers have property in various parts of the world. These properties can be used for the Lord's work. This will be a huge investment in eternity.**
- **Our second generation is well off, than most of us and they do not need our property or money.**
- **Plan on investing in eternity.**

PRIORITIES IN LIFE

- Priorities in life:
- Is it self-satisfying, short lived, perishable things of this world?
- Or is it investing your life and resources which has eternal value which will eventually produce 100% yield.
- ***“... and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor” I Corinthians 3:8***
- **There is a day coming that we all will stand before the judgment seat of Christ, and give an account of our life.**

100% YIELD

- ◉ Obviously the Lord is the **ONLY** one who will decide whose investment will receive 100% yield.
- ◉ We have some guidance from the scripture in **1 Corinthians 3:10-15**
- ◉ **V.15** says “..... if any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by the fire.”
- ◉ So we can draw the conclusion, that after the test of fire, whatever is left will receive **100% yield**.

QUALITY CHART

- This principles is applicable for everything in life

Conclusion

2 Peter 1:5 “And beside this, giving all diligence, add...”

- Some practical facts to consider:
- In everything in life there are six steps of quality:



END