

# PARK HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*Thus Saith the Lord*

## PEACE BE STILL

By Jeff Sweeten

Few of us consider ourselves "rich" and probably fewer of us would feel guilty of hoarding a "treasure." However, during His "Sermon on the Mount," the bulk of Jesus' audience consisted of common people, not people of great wealth. Still, Jesus told them, "*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 be also*" (cf. Matthew 6:19-21). If nothing else, this proves that it is the "love of money" (1 Timothy 6:10), not the possession of it, that creates all the grief.

When it comes to what we "have," everything is treasure. The issue under discussion has little to do with quantity and more to do with possession; what we "have" is a degree of richness. Much of Matthew 6 deals with misplaced priorities since many are always looking for something more (vs. 22-23) and allow "things" to become the sum of their lives to the point that the "things" take over (v. 24). The resultant tunnel vision has us focusing solely on the carrot strung from the stick just beyond the nose, and many frequently forget that it is all God's property (Psalm 50:10-12) and He will take care of our necessities. So, why all the worry (vs. 25-32)? When we get to this point of obsession, we need to rethink our priorities. Pleasing God is a no-lose proposition (vs. 33-34); if we busy our brain in the woes of right now, we will lose sight of a glorious hereafter. When troubles toss us to and fro on the stormy sea of life and waves threaten to bury us, remember the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, for God knows (Psalm 139:7ff) and God cares (1 Peter 5:7); this will reinforce the fact that it **will** be okay (Philippians 4:7). This is our true treasure!

As the panicked crew pleaded, "*Lord, save us: we perish*" (Matthew 8:25), the only calm Person in the boat was the Captain. It would do us all a service to drift back to that small boat on the Sea of Galilee and hear Him say, "*Peace, be still*" (Mark 4:39).

**JOIN US ON SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY!**

**SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. Bible Class • 10:25 a.m. Morning Worship • 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship**

**WEDNESDAY: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study • Contact the minister at 254-370-4130**