

God or Mammon?  
Matthew 6:19-24

Review:

1. It is futile to try to store up treasures on earth, because they can easily be destroyed or stolen.
2. It makes more sense to set our hearts on Heaven, for God Himself is our greatest treasure
3. We must focus our attention single-mindedly on God, if we want His light to illuminate our lives and make our pathway clear

Go Further: Read Psalm 73

1. To whom does Asaph, the psalmist, say God will be good?
2. Why does Asaph say in verses 2 and 3 that his faith in God had almost stumbled and slipped?
3. What blessings do the wicked seem to have in verses 4, 5, and 7?
4. How does Asaph describe the behavior of these wicked people in verses 6, 8, and 9?
5. What question do the wicked ask about God in verse 11?
6. How does this question help to explain their behavior?
7. How does Asaph sum up his attitude about the wicked in verse 12?
8. What conclusion does Asaph draw in verse 13 from his observation that godless people are often blessed with health and wealth?
9. How does Asaph contrast his own experience in verse 14 with that of the wealthy wicked?
10. In verse 15, what does Asaph say would be true of him if he proclaimed his thoughts in verses 13 and 14? Why would uttering such words hurt other people?
11. In verse 17, where did Asaph say he began to understand why wicked people seem to be blessed?
12. In verses 18-20, what does Asaph say God will do to the wicked?
13. How does Asaph describe his feelings in verses 21 and 22?
14. In spite of his envious feelings, how does Asaph say God will bless him in verses 23 and 24? What does this tell us about God's grace?
15. What do verses 25 and 26 say about Asaph's priorities? Who is his greatest blessing?
16. As he closes the psalm, Asaph begins to summarize what he has learned. In verse 27, what does he believe God will do to those who are far away from Him?
17. In verse 28, what does Asaph say is good for him to do?
18. What does he say he has done in the past, and what does he promise to do in the future?

Apply:

1. Have you ever found yourself being envious of those who are not followers of Jesus but who nevertheless have lots of worldly blessings? Why is it hard to believe that God would bless people who don't love Him or want to follow Him?
2. Why do you think Asaph began to see things more clearly when he went into a place of worship? How does worshipping God help us set worldly injustices in their proper perspective?
3. How do verses 18-20 give you hope that God will do justice to the wicked? Have you ever seen an example of such justice being meted out in this world? Tell about it.
4. Why do you think Asaph felt the way he did in verses 21-22? Why is being envious so hurtful to us and our relationship with God?
5. How do the blessings the godly receive, described in verses 23 and 24, compare with those of the wicked in verses 4, 5, and 7? Which would you rather have and why?