

## 8 ONLY JESUS

*Matthew 6:21-22 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.*

*Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve God and mammon.*

*Matthew 17:8 When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.*

What does it mean to have Jesus only as our Lord? *Matthew 6* provides some clear criteria of this as a spiritual reality in our experience:

- **Treasure: Earthly or Heavenly (*Matthew 6:19-21*)**

The things we have a great natural liking for reveal what our hearts are truly set on. Are the things we value most and go after, heavenly or earthly? *“Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:2)*. Our mindset determines the type of treasures we lay up, whether they are temporal or eternal.

- **Vision: Light or Darkness (*Matthew 6:23-24*)**

Similarly, the things that attract our attention and catch our eye give our true spiritual affinity away. To have a single eye or clarity of vision is to be sharply focused on the target in our sights. Is it Jesus? *“The lamp of the body is the eye” (v22)* means what you look at outside is what you are on the inside. Watch what you are watching, and you will find an amazing accuracy in the portrait it gives of the real you.

- **Master: God or Mammon (*Matthew 6:24*)**

Everything can be whittled down to the barest minimum of two choices - the best, and the second-best. The choice looks obvious enough, unless the moral basis is diametrically opposed between them. Then, the choice is no longer a matter of priority but of morality. It is no longer for what is best but what is right. Mammon is the ‘money god’ of materialism. Its folly is mistaking the means for the end, thereby substituting God with an idol.

When the rich, young man came to Jesus (*Matthew 19:16-22*), He simply laid before him the condition of the Cross, expressed in practical terms specific to his own life. Once presented with the facts, one can no longer plead ignorance. No one can make a moral choice without living with its consequences. He was sad at Jesus’ word to him and *“went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions” (v22)*. He could not help being sorrowful because he knowingly chose the love of the world over the love of God.

The whole point of the vision on the mount of transfiguration (*Matthew 17:8*) is to come to the place where there is absolutely nothing and no one coming between the disciple and the Lord – seeing only Jesus. This vision on the mount has to be translated into the practical details of life on the plain where it is to be seen, not just told.