

## WHERE IS YOUR TREASURE?

Jesus commanded, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matt. 6:19-20). However, the following verse emphasizes the point we wish to consider. He then said, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21). So, where is **your treasure**?

A song found in most hymnals and one we sing occasionally is, "Is Thy Heart Right with God"? written by Elisha A. Hoffman in 1899. When we sing this song, do we really ask ourselves the questions that we are singing?

The first question is, "Have thine affections been nailed to the cross?" This question calls for us to examine what is really important to us. The affections of this world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life (I John 2:16) need to have been nailed to the cross when we were buried with Christ in baptism and were to be raised to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:3-4). He told the Colossians that when raised with Christ we are to "seek those things which are above" and "set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:1-2). Indeed, our earthly affections have need to be nailed to the cross and if such has not taken place, well, you know where your treasure is, don't you.

A second question is asked in that afore mentioned song. It is, "Hast thou dominion o'er self and o'er sin?" The old skit by Flip Wilson, where he said, "the devil made me do it" cannot apply to our actions. Some may say, "I couldn't help it", but they really could. Paul told the Corinthians, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that he may be able to bear it" (I Cor. 10:13). To say you couldn't help it is to say that God was wrong. One must put forth the effort to control his/her own actions. Paul said of himself, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway" (I Cor. 9:27).

Where is your treasure and who are your pleasing?

*Tilis*

## YOU GOT TO KNOW YOUR LIMITATIONS

In his character of "Dirty Harry", Clint Eastwood often made short statements such as "Go ahead, make my day", that are remembered and quoted often. One other such statement was, "A man's got to know his own limitations". This is a true statement and one that ought to be considered in the realm of one's spiritual state.

A phrase I often heard when I was a child, sometimes from my mother in reference to me, was "you're getting too big for your britches". Now, mother was not talking about me outgrowing my clothing, she was talking about me trying to go above what I had the ability or authority to say or do. Though this has often been the case of man from the beginning of time, but it seems that our society has accelerated and majored in this error into a whole lifestyle. Generally speaking, especially here in the United States, we have begun to think a little too much of ourselves. We are getting to be a little too big for our britches. We need to know what our limitations are.

In dealing with matters concerning a spiritual nature, far too often we find those who seem to have forgotten (if they ever knew it in the first place) that they are not the one who makes the decisions concerning what is right or wrong relative to serving God. That right belongs to God and for the Christian age, to Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:18; Matt. 17:5; Heb. 1:1-2). Yet, multitudes live all around us (and possibly we ourselves) as well as all over this land that have ignored and are ignoring what God has commanded us to do by way of His inspired word. Who do we think we are to question what God has commanded? Who do we think we are to change God's inspired word, pervert that word (Gal. 1:6-9), wrest or twist that word (II Pet. 3:16) in order to have a doctrine or practice that is more to **our own liking**?

When some sought the priesthood that belonged to Aaron and his sons, God said to them, "Seemeth it but a small thing unto you..." They had become a little too big for their britches. They didn't seem know their own limitations. God destroyed those who were considered wicked people because of their failure to accept that they were not the one's who had the right to determine what was right or wrong in serving the God of heaven.

There are certainly many other applications of how many today have gotten a little too big for their spiritual britches. The conclusion is, "Fear God and keep His commandments" (Ecc. 12:13). *Robert*