



# “Lightning & Thunder”

(Grace & Giving)

A special series on Stewardship – Part 5

4/29/07

Text: Matthew 6:21-24

Last week we began to take a look at another portion of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. We grappled with the first idea – **FIRST NATIONAL BANK** (earth) vs. **SOVEREIGN BANK** (heaven) found in v.19-20. *You Can’t Take It With You. BUT....You Can Send It On Ahead.*

Two quick supplements to this passage from another passage uncovered in Luke’s gospel. <sup>32</sup>*“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”* As you begin to *lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,*

COOL FACT #1 – Your wallet, your purse, your *moneybag* will never, ever \_\_\_\_\_

COOL FACT #2 – The treasure stored in Sovereign Bank \_\_\_\_\_

Reward Principle – GIVING BRINGS GREATER BLESSING THAN RECEIVING.

Reward Principle – WHEN WE INVEST MONEY NOW IN GOD’S KINGDOM, WE WILL RECEIVE GREAT REWARDS LATER IN HEAVEN.

**TODAY -- Reward Principle – God Offers Us Rewards That Are Eternal, Imperishable, and Inexhaustible.**

Second theme:

ACQUIRE A DIVINE VIEWPOINT – 6:22-23 - <sup>22</sup>*“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup>but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!”*

Physical vision is used here as a metaphor for *perspective*.

Note: People only live for a higher purpose when they SEE a higher purpose.

Those who have been drawn into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ look at life completely different. Our theology of eternity gives us perspective.

**Object Lesson** – The Dot & the Line....

APPLICATION: Choose your investments carefully, compare rates of interest, and evaluate how your investments will be working for you a few \_\_\_\_\_ from now. ☺

Third theme....

SINGLE-MINDED DEVOTION – 6:24 - <sup>24</sup>*“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”*

There’s a throne in each life only big enough for \_\_\_\_\_.