



Seeds of Eternal Harvest

“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: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:19-21).

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“And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward” (Matthew 10:42).

Some years ago, the concept of “getting your reward in heaven” for benevolent acts was popular among many professions and people. In today’s world, the concept of “What is in it for me?” has taken over - destroying the spirit of self-less sacrificial service for the benefit of others. How time Changes! Well, time and attitudes may change, but God and His words remain for ever the same. It therefore pays to remind ourselves of the timeless teachings of the scripture, lest in our pilgrimage, our vision becomes clouded, but in our efforts to make progress, we drift aimlessly away from our eternal destiny.

“Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. 13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: 14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just” (Luke 14:12-14).

- 1) The first thing we learn from this is that Jesus used the opportunity of being invited to a wedding feast to educate the host on eternal priorities. We will make more spiritual progress if we learn how to seize every opportunity to evangelise; or create opportunity where there appears to be none.
- 2) The second thing we notice is that Jesus’ teaching was transformational and opposite to the normal customs of the time. We cannot expect to make a difference by merely fit-

ting in to the customs, traditions and values of the time. This is the gospel demand for every Christian - “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Romans 12:2). Conformity will make one an ineffective witness of Jesus in this world. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:13).

- 3) Thirdly, we notice that Jesus teaching focused on eternal priorities rather than the immediate needs and considerations of the moment. In a busy competitive world like ours, it is very easy to get so caught up in the rat race to the point that we forget who we are, where we came from, why we are here and where we are heading to. The consequences? - Disoriented individual who have lost the purpose worth living for, going around in circles heading nowhere fast.
- 4) Fourthly, we learn that investing for eternal reward will help to focus our lives on earth and enable us to adequately prepare for eternity.
- 5) Heeding Jesus’ teaching might appear to some as bucking the current, could make us unpopular or even attract negative criticisms, persecution and opposition but the inner knowledge of what we are doing and why we are doing so, will give us the courage and strength to persevere to success.