

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

One of my favorite verses is in **Matthew chapter 6, verse 19:**

**Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.**

Perhaps you have had a burglary. I know many, many people who have known such terrible happenings. It seems that it is common that man breaks in to steal. But God has an alternative to all our possessions, all we want, and all that are so important to us are not the physical, material things that we can touch and hold and ooh about. What is the good of a lovely dress, if somehow you do not fit it any more? What is the point of having that thing that you thought was the most in-thing, when, twenty years later, the color is wrong? Somehow, it is always wanting, always laying up what you want. That is the natural tendency. Without realizing it, you could be a woman with a covetous heart. "Oh," you say, "not me! I do not mind what other people have." Do you see things and think, "That would fit well in my house" - or "I would like to have that." What is your attitude about material things? My attitude toward material things effects my priorities. They can be the main reason why I do not seek the kingdom and His righteousness. Am I a woman who wants to be rich in God? It is amazing to me that when I give to God all the things that are

necessary for life and do not think about them, it is God who brings them to me. I am amazed that He knows the desires of my heart, right down to colors I like. It just seems God just does it; it is His way of letting me know that it is His business how I am clothed and how I am cared for, just like He takes care of the beautiful birds about us.

My anxiety over material things can keep me from trusting God. Material things do not last, we realize that. What we share of Jesus will last forever. He has told us, in **verse 21 - For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also.** Where is your treasure? “Oh, it is me and mine and what I am expecting,” - but what then?

I have seen so many people who have built up a great treasure in this way and somehow, everything falls back on them in later life. The children don't turn out to be those people we thought they were going to be. Somehow, their children become even more materialistic, because that is all they ever heard from the mother. Oh, may it be our children might catch from us that the most important thing is to give glory to the Lord and to praise Him!

What do you have in your hands? Are you willing to give it to another? Are you willing to look out and see the people who have far less than you, and to feel that what you have is there to be shared? We have made many journeys in and out of Africa. As my husband knows, just about everything he has in terms of underwear and shirts and things get whipped away by myself, and given to people who have nothing on

the streets. These little children don't have a thing. There is a joy in giving; There is a joy in sharing! On a rainy, cold day, do you look out and think, "There is a poor old soul who needs this umbrella." Do you ever think in those terms? You see, that is how God works through us; we are always thinking and being concerned about the other. It is amazing! If we are concerned about how they are going to eat and how they are going to have money to do this, we can see what is in our hand being used so that other lives are touched and reached, and yet, somehow or other, we are taken care of as well. My husband and I, many years ago, understood this principle as something that applies not just to the folk we know, but to the folk we don't know. God knows these are the ones that are to be on our hearts as we love them and pray for them and are concerned for them. Without realizing it, you are always thinking of what could go where and how could this happen and He multiplies it.

Take, for example, these two books that you have probably heard us mention - *Your Quest for God* and *Food for Faith*. It has always been a case of how we can trust God that these books can be put in the hands of various people around the world, because they need them right now? That is what would help them to come to know the Lord. That is what would help them to grow in the Lord in the Word of God and how they fellowship with other believers. Would you start to see outside of yourself? It is not laying up what you want, but seeing that in Christ

you have everything. It is what He wants to take of yours and all that you are and could possibly be, to let others have, as you are open for the available, wonderful working of the Spirit of the Lord through you to reach other lives. Do you understand it is a big world out there that God would have you to see and love and care, not thinking of yours, but thinking of His? You will find you have the greatest treasures on this earth that you could ever have imagined, for the joy of the Lord will fill your heart and His purposes will be outworked for His glory. That is really why we are down here, if we love Jesus.

We love you. God bless.