

MATTHEW 6 vs 16

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Jesus, having addressed being charitable toward others secretly; and acknowledging God our Father who provides daily for us; here Jesus says, secretly deal with yourselves... as we join Him in the way He leads us individually,

¹⁶ **Moreover when you fast** / the word is: **nesteo**... it is not mandated by Jesus Christ; it is simply and voluntarily expected. The word is often mentioned in a negative context of prideful Pharisees; while rarely mentioned by Peter or Paul; and never mentioned by John -- so obviously it is intended as a personal, private activity. **It is okay to be hungry**; it is an opportunity that forces us to remember: many people in the world are very hungry; staggering numbers are starving to death... due to the policies and greed... of governments and public and private entities.... and individuals alike.



To the church that Jesus is building, **it is okay to be hungry**. We are reminded... when we fast: many are hungry to hear the word of God, and they are spiritually starving to death; many have never heard even though Jesus said: **feed My sheep!**

when you fast...

be not, as the hypocrites / be not like those 2-faced people who love the drama... and wear a mask,



of a SsAaaaddDD countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they appear to men to fast / they actually painted their faces; they had their own make-up artists.

Jesus says...

Verily, Amen! / of a certainty, **I say to you, They have their reward** / what they expected, they received; paid in full! Nothing else is coming.

¹⁷ **But you, when you fast anoint your head, and wash your face** / so Jesus simply expects us to do it; get cleaned up, and put on a smile;

¹⁸ **That you appear not to men to fast,**

but fast to your Father who is in secret: and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you, openly. / **on this subject, read: Zechariah 7, closely!**

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¹⁹ **Don't pile up** treasures / this word is: **thesaurizo**...it is the verb associated with that storehouse word. Jesus is talking about what we treasure; actually, what we heap up; what we pile up; what we store up.

Don't pile up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust devour / the word is: **aphanizo**... it means: to cause to disappear; to consume; it's the same word for those hypocrites who **disfigure** their faces,

and where thieves break through and steal:

²⁰ **But pile up** / heap up... mound up... **and amass as high as you can...**

for yourselves treasures in heaven, where no moth nor rust devour,

and where thieves do not break through and steal / you know, there is something we can take to heaven. **Pile up heaven with friends**; those who love the Lord! Right?!



²¹ **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be** / Jon Sherberg, a great composer-friend in the 1970s, many years ago, wrote that beautiful song: [WHERE YOUR HEART IS](#) inspired by this verse: ... everybody in the church should know it and sing it; check it out!

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be.

²² **The light of the body is the eye:**

if your eye is single, your whole body will be full of light / Jesus is talking about **single-focused**. He could have said, Keep looking to your heavenly Father; He could have said, [Keep your eye on the prize](#).

²³ **But if your eye is evil** / always, looking around, comparing, complaining,

your whole body will be full of darkness.

Therefore, if the light that is in you is darkness, / Wow! how great is that darkness!

²⁴ **No one** / man or woman -- young or old, **can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other;**

or else / sooner or later **he will hold to the one, and despise the other.**

You cannot serve God and mammon / a common Aramaic word meaning: **riches**, in the sense of being firm; also where we get our **Amen!** It is similar to that **storehouse** where we are to enter, and pray in secret giving thanks to God for His provision. Jesus says the choice is simple: **God** or **wealth**... even wealth of riches... of knowledge... of strength... or of opportunity. what will we bow down and serve? **God** or **wealth**

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²⁵ Therefore **I say to you,**

stop worrying / the verb: merimnao – is used 6 times to the end of this chapter; Jesus says, stop being anxious,

about your life, what you will eat, or what you will drink,

or for your body, what you will put on.

Is not life more than food, and body more than raiment? / isn't life more important than the soup of the day, or the fad and fashion on sale today?

²⁶ **Behold** / pay attention, **the fowls of the air, they don't sow, they don't reap** / Jesus says, check out the birds and bees and bugs flying around town!

they don't gather into barns / they are in their own little world; and notice how they don't even stop to pay attention... to your own busy world! They just swoop in and swoop out... ignoring you and me..

yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more valued than they? / than little birdbrains?

²⁷ **Who of you by worrying can add to his life one span to his stature?** / which one of you by being anxious about life, can add even one inch; Jesus said to his stature, that's height... not waistline.

²⁸ **And why do you worry about raiment?** / why are you anxious for more clothing, more shoes, shirts and pants? what's the big deal about fashion?

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they do not toil, nor do they spin / they don't work:

²⁹ And yet **I say to you,** that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

³⁰ **Wherefore** / what is all this said for?

if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven / to be burned up,

will He not much more clothe you, you of little faith? Jesus says: God the Father is not an absent parent. Our Father can be trusted take Him at His word.



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³¹ **Therefore stop worrying** / stop being anxious, **saying** things like

What will we eat? or, What will we drink? or, With what will we be clothed? / it sounds like the shallow conversation of Beverly Hills housewives... well, all of them: the Dallas, the New Jersey, the Orange County... and all those vapid, whiny asses, doesn't it? Jesus says... stop worrying about that stuff!

³² **For after all these things the Gentiles seek** / and things haven't changed any in 2,000 years.

Jesus continues...

and God your Father knows you have need of all these little, less important things.

 ³³ **But seek first the kingdom of God** / start there; where He rules; where His influence is known; where He lives, it's a place of joy and peace,

and His righteousness / see how He always does things right;

and all these little things will be added to you.

³⁴ **Therefore don't worry about tomorrow** / stop being anxious about tomorrow:

for tomorrow will worry about itself.

Sufficient to the day is its evil. / the word for evil is: **kakia**. In today's language, we might say... don't worry about tomorrow; every day has enough kaka. So, people of God, put on your hip-boots.

We're marching to Zion!

[This is My Father's World](#) | [Were Marching to Zion](#) | [JESUS, It is YOU](#)

CHECK OUT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AROUND THE WORLD SINGING GOD'S PRAISE:

