



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Matthew 6:19-34

Title: How to Beat a Plague

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 3/15/2020

Discussion Starter –In uncertain times we like to do things that make us feel in control. When we became believers the list of things we value began to change. What does it mean to “lay up your treasure in heaven”? How might you live this out in these uncertain times?

The World is a Volatile Place

- God’s kingdom is permanent, substantial, and unwavering. How are these truths and Jesus’ command to “lay up our treasure in heaven” related? (See verse 20)
- How might our behavior be a light to unbelievers? (See 2 Timothy 1:7, Psalm 90:12)
- What is the opposite of having a “spirit of fear”? Is it ok to be afraid? If so, how do you reconcile your view of Paul’s instruction to Timothy? From where does your fear originate? (2 Timothy 1:7)
- What is the difference between “fear” and “worry”?
- Read Hebrews 12:28. How can being grateful bring perspective to the current situation? How might dwelling on our fears be destructive? How might gratefulness bring perspective to this situation?
- How does the hope of the gospel message influence your response to difficulty? (see verse 21)
- In the context of this message, what does, “But if your eye is bad” mean? How might a misunderstanding of Jesus and eternity increase our fear?
- Jesus provides instruction about the value of understanding God’ character, saying, “If therefore the light in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” Why is it difficult to find our way out of the darkness if we have a wrong understanding of God’s character? How might incorrect doctrine (like the prosperity gospel) bring fear and guilt in difficult times?
- God is sovereign! How might God use this situation for good? How can the temporary changes we are experiencing be seen as positives? What do you have to be grateful for?
- The current situation may bring some difficulty. How does the thought God’s sovereignty bring comfort? (verses 25-30).
- We face lots of difficulty and opposition on a daily basis – at times it may even feel like a plague of difficulty. What opposition do you face? How do you approach difficulty and opposition?
- Read verse 33 – discuss how this verse summarizes Pastor Dave’s message?