

Treasure Hunt

- What OT teaching anticipates the Lord's reference to birds and beautiful plants?
- What do vain repetitions and worry have in common?
- What is unusual about “kingdom of God” in 6:33?
- What nuance does this expression carry?
- How does recognizing the background of 6:34 in Proverbs clarify the motive for this command?
- What general principle for mental hygiene does this verse share with Eph 4, Psa 63, and Psa 77?

Structure of Matt 6:19-7:12

Godward: Serve God, not Wealth

Manward: Be Fair

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| Exhortation | Mat 6:19-34 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. | Mat 7:1-12 Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. |
| The Eye | 22 The light of the body is the eye : if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! | 3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye , but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye ? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye ; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye ? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye ; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye . |
| Exhortation | 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. | 6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you. |
| Encouragement | 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? | 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. |
| ... Supporting Parable | 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. | 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? |
| ... "Much More" | 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? | 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? |
| Exhortation with ouv | 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. | 12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: |

God's Care for the Natural World

Psa 104:10 He sendeth the springs into the valleys, *which* run among the hills. 11 They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst. 12 By them shall **the fowls of the heaven** have their habitation, *which* sing among the branches. 13 He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works. 14 He causeth **the grass** to grow for the cattle, and **herb** for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; 15 And wine *that* maketh glad the heart of man, *and* oil to make *his* face to shine, and bread *which* strengtheneth man's heart. 16 The trees of the LORD are full *of sap*; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted; 17 Where the birds make their nests: *as for* the stork, the fir trees *are* her house. 18 The high hills *are* a refuge for the wild goats; *and* the rocks for the conies.

A Repeated Message

| Matt 6:7-8 | Matt 6:31-32 |
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| 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, | 31-32 Therefore take no thought , saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? |
| as the heathen <i>do</i> : for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: | 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) |
| for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. | for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. |

Kingdom of Heaven (32x) vs. God (5x)

From same Hebrew or Aramaic original:

Mat 11:11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the **kingdom of heaven** is greater than he.

Luk 7:28 For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the **kingdom of God** is greater than he.

Other Instances:

Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

Matthew 19:24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

Matthew 21:31 Whether of them twain did the will of *his* father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

Matthew 21:43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

The Roots of 6:34

| Prov 27:1 | Matt 6:34 |
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| Boast not thyself of to morrow; | Take therefore no thought for the morrow: |
| for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. | for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. |

Spiritual Tooth-brushing

Eph 4:26 Let not the sun go down upon your wrath.

Psa 63:5 My soul shall be satisfied as *with* marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise *thee* with joyful lips: 6 When I remember thee upon my bed, *and* meditate on thee in the *night* watches.

Psa 77:1 I cried unto God with my voice, *even* unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted. 3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah. 4 Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times. 6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

7 Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favourable no more? 8 Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth *his* promise fail for evermore? 9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.

10 And I said, This *is* my infirmity: ~~but I will remember~~ the years of the right hand of the most High. 11 I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. 12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings. 13 Thy way, O God, *is* in the sanctuary [holiness Exod 15:11]: who *is* so great a God as *our* God? 14 Thou *art* the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people. 15 Thou hast with *thine* arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah. 16 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled. 17 The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad. 18 The voice of thy thunder *was* in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook. 19 Thy way *is* in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known. 20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.