### Matthew

## Chapter 6

1‘Be careful not to practice your righteousness before other men so that they can see what you’re doing; for if you do, you won’t receive a reward from your Father in the heavens.  
  
 2‘And when you’re giving gifts to the needy, don’t blow a trumpet in the synagogue or out in the streets like the hypocrites do so they can be praised by the people. I tell you the truth: when they do this, that’s the only reward they’ll receive!  
  
 3‘Rather, when you give gifts to the needy, don’t [tell] your left hand what your right hand is doing. 4Give your gifts to the needy in secret, and then your Father who watches in secret will be [the One] that repays you.  
  
 5‘And don’t pray like the hypocrites do, for they [like to] pray as they’re standing in their synagogues and on the corners of the main streets, so that people will notice what they’re doing. I tell you the truth: that’s their full reward.  
  
 6‘Instead, when you pray, go into your room and after shutting the door, pray to your Father in secret. Then you’ll be repaid by your Father who’s watching in secret.  
  
 7‘Also, when praying, don’t babble the same words like the gentiles do. For they think that they may only be heard through the use of many words. 8No, don’t act like them, for your God and Father already knows everything that you need before you ask Him.  
  
 9‘Now, this is how you should pray:  
  
 ‘Our Father who’s in the heavens,  
 May Your Name be treated as Holy,  
 10And may Your Kingdom arrive…  
 May Your Will take place on the earth,  
 As it has in the heavens.  
  
 11‘Give us our bread for this day,  
 12And please forgive all our debts,  
 As we’ve forgiven our debtors.  
 13Into temptation, may we not be led,  
 And from the wicked [one], save us.’  
  
 For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.  
 Amen. [spurious]  
  
 14‘For if you’re willing to forgive other people’s errors, your Father in the heavens will overlook yours. 15However, if you aren’t willing to forgive their errors, your Father won’t forgive yours either.  
  
 16‘Also, when you fast, don’t put on a sad face like the hypocrites do, because they contort their faces to make sure that everyone knows they’re fasting. I tell you the truth: this is all the reward they’ll receive.  
  
 17‘But whenever you fast, wash your face and rub your head with oil, 18so that no one will know that you’re fasting other than your Father who’s watching in secret… And then your Father who’s watching in secret will be [the One] that repays you.  
  
  
 19‘Stop storing up treasures here on the earth that can be eaten by rust and by moths, or which thieves can break in and steal. 20Rather, store your treasures in the heavens where they can’t be consumed by moths or by rust, and where thieves can’t break in and steal them.  
  
 21‘For your hearts will be wherever your treasures are!  
  
 22‘Your eyes are the lamps of your bodies, and if [you keep] your eyes simple, they’ll make your whole body bright. 23But if your eyes are just wicked, they’ll make your whole body dark. And when the only light within you is darkness... How great that darkness will be!  
  
 24‘No one can slave for two masters. For you’ll [find that] you won’t care for one, but love the other… Yes, you’ll be devoted to one, but you’ll despise the other…  
  
 ‘And this is why you can’t slave for God and for wealth!  
  
  
 25‘I’m also telling you that you shouldn’t worry about your lives, or what you’ll eat, or what you’ll drink [spurious] or your bodies and what you’ll wear. The person you are inside is more important than food; your body is more important than clothes.  
  
 26‘Rather, notice the birds in the skies… They don’t plant seeds, or harvest, or put things in storage sheds, because your Father in the heavens provides their food… And aren’t you [greater than] they are?  
  
 27‘Which of you can, through worry, add even a smidgen of length to your lifespan?  
  
  
 28‘Also, when it comes to clothes, why should you worry? Rather, pay attention to the way that lilies grow in the fields. For even though they don’t work or spin cloth, 29not even Solomon in all of his glory was as well-dressed as them.  
  
 30‘So, if God so well-dresses the plants in the fields (that are here today and thrown into the oven tomorrow), wouldn’t He rather clothe you… You with so little faith?  
  
 31‘Therefore, never be worried and ask, What are we going to eat or drink, or, What are we going to wear?  
  
 32‘For these are the types of things that the gentiles are concerned with… And your Father in the heavens already knows that you need these things! 33Rather, put the Kingdom and righteousness first, and then all these other things will be given to you.  
  
 34‘No, don’t worry about what tomorrow will bring,  
 For tomorrow will have its own problems,  
 And each day will have its own badness.’