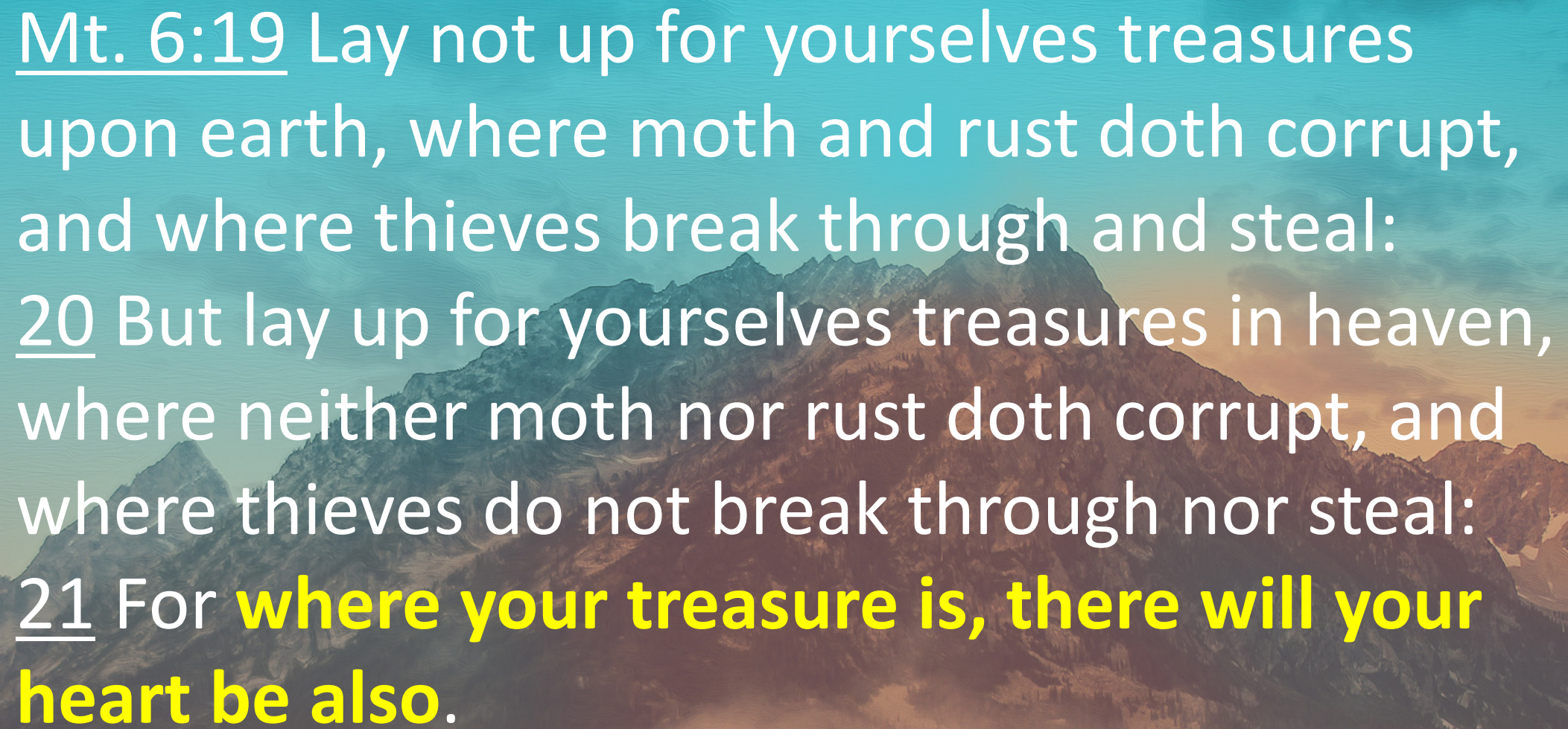




THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Mt. 6:19-21

“The Principles of Wealth”

A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains in the background, some with patches of snow. In the foreground, there is a calm body of water, likely a lake, with a line of evergreen trees along the shore. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Mt. 6:19 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.**

Review

Back in December we began the exegesis of this great sermon preached by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's review the outline:

- I. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BLESSINGS, 5:1-16
- II. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BELIEFS, 5:17-20
- III. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BIBLE, 5:21-48
- IV. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BURDENS, 6:1-34
 - A. Burdens Connected with Worship, 6:1-18
 1. The Duties of Life, 6:1-4
 2. The Devotions of Life, 6:5-15
 3. The Disciplines of Life, 6:16-18
 - (1) The Question of Appetite, 6:16a

(2) The Question of Appearance, 6:16b-18a

(a) Herald One's Fast, 6:16b-c

i. What Hypocrites Desire from
a Fast, 6:16b

ii. What Hypocrites Derive
from a Fast, 6:16c

(b) Hiding One's Fast, 6:17-18a

i. There is to Be No Show, 6:17

ii. There is to Be No Sham, 6:18a

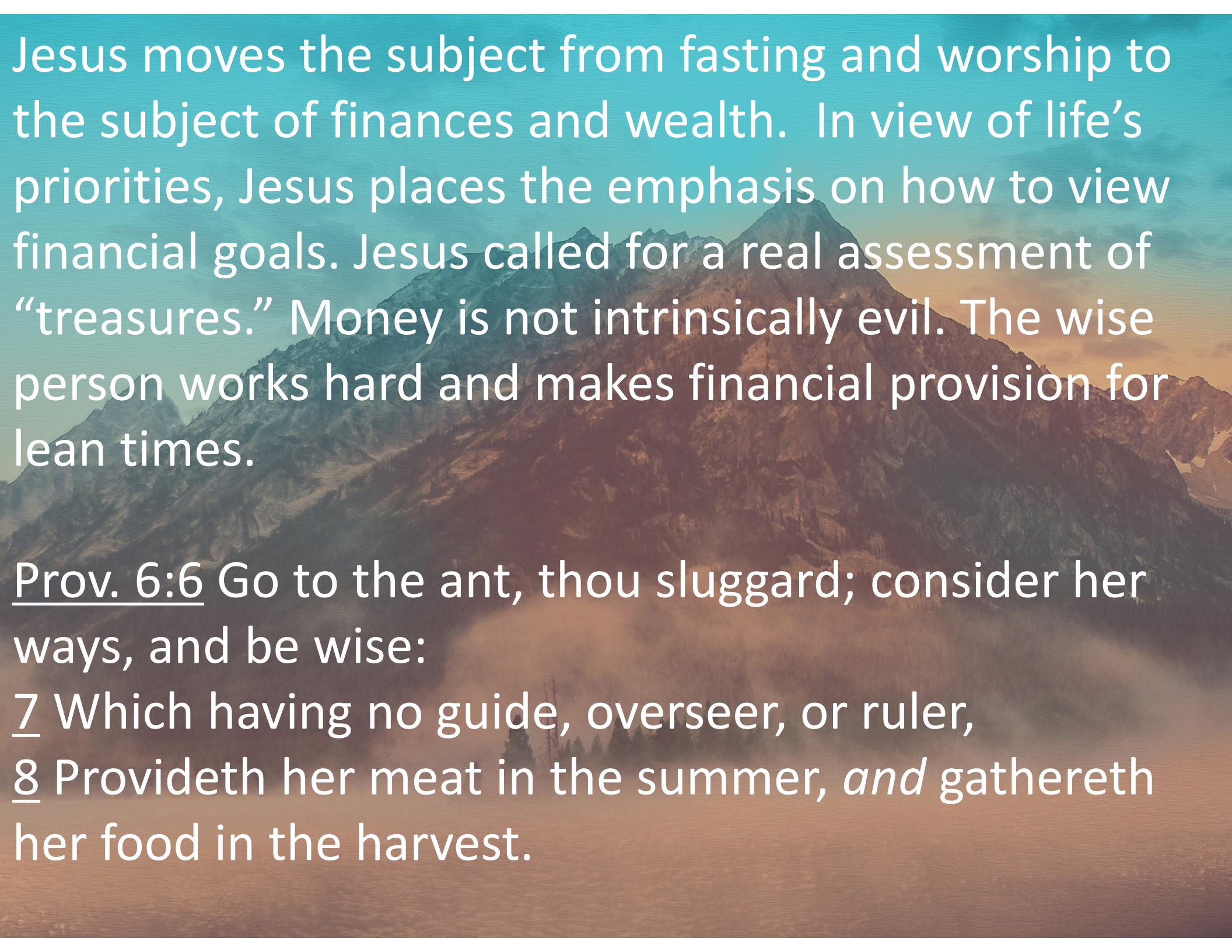
(3) The Question of Applause, 6:18b-c

i. The Reality Seen by Our Father,
6:18b

ii. The Reward Seen by Our Father,
6:18c

Early in the “Sermon on the Mount” the Lord Jesus emphasized His concern regarding “righteousness.”

Mt. 5:20 For I say unto you, That **except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

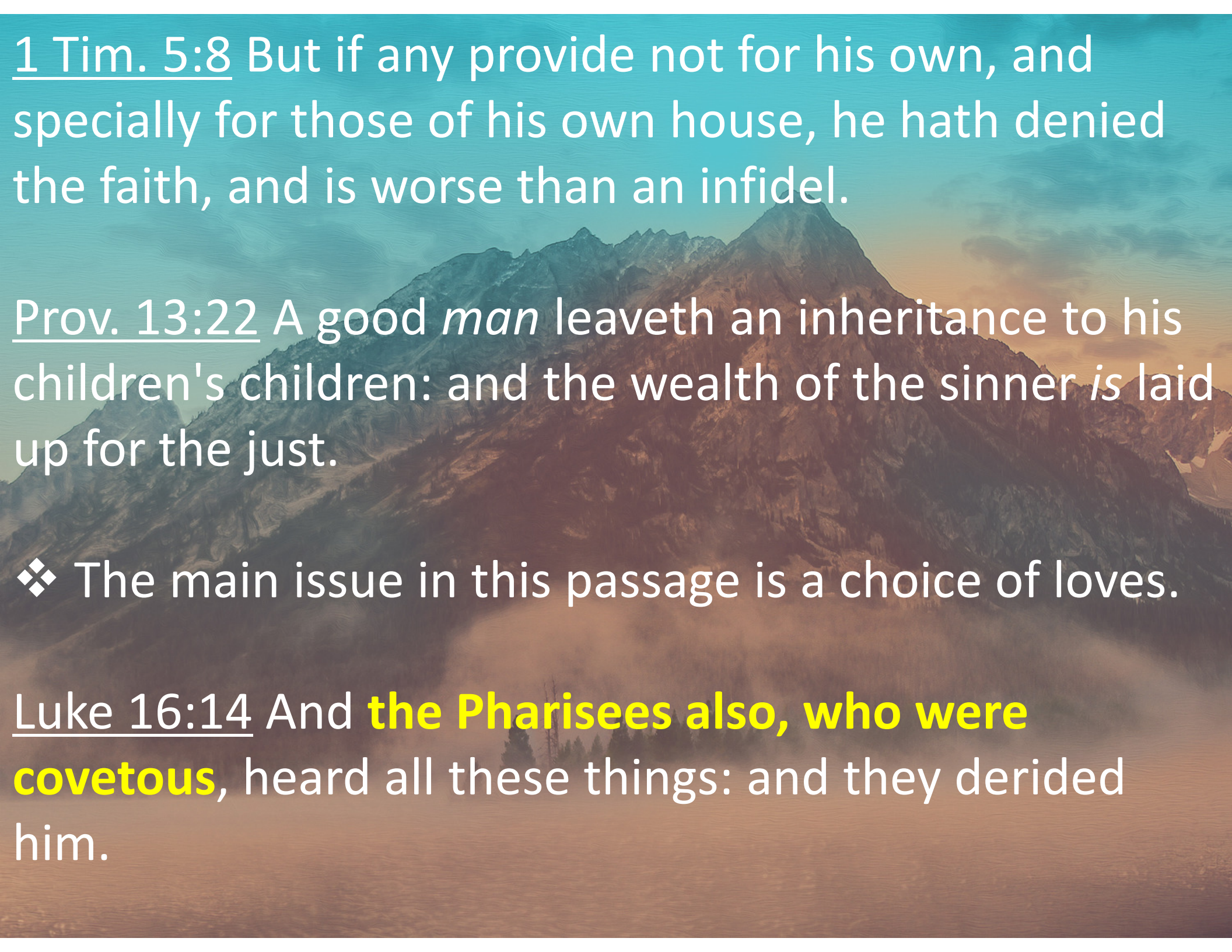


Jesus moves the subject from fasting and worship to the subject of finances and wealth. In view of life's priorities, Jesus places the emphasis on how to view financial goals. Jesus called for a real assessment of "treasures." Money is not intrinsically evil. The wise person works hard and makes financial provision for lean times.

Prov. 6:6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

8 Provideth her meat in the summer, *and* gathereth her food in the harvest.



1 Tim. 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

Prov. 13:22 A good *man* leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner *is* laid up for the just.

❖ The main issue in this passage is a choice of loves.

Luke 16:14 And **the Pharisees also, who were covetous**, heard all these things: and they derided him.

Ex. 20:17 Thou shalt not **covet** thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not **covet** thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that *is* thy neighbour's.

Col. 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and **covetousness, which is idolatry:**

B. Burdens Connected with Wealth, 6:19-24

1. A Choice of Loves, 6:19-21

a. One's Hoard, 6:19-20

(1) Earthly Treasure, 6:19

❖ The Lord Jesus “commands” His disciples how to “treasure” their hearts.

Original Word: θησαυρίζω

Part of Speech: Verb – Imperative Active

Transliteration: thēsaurizō

Definition and Usage: to lay up, store up; I store up, treasure up, save, lay up.

thēsaurizō – properly, to put away, “store up”; lay aside *treasure*, built up (accumulated) for the day of future *recompense*

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2343.htm>

(a) Where the Moth Ruins, 6:19a
(destroys) “...where moth...”

Original Word: σής

Transliteration: sés

Definition and Usage: a moth

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4597.htm>

- ❖ What Jesus precludes here is the accumulation of massive amounts of treasure as a life goal.
- ❖ It is foolish to accumulate great quantities of goods because they are perishable.

❖ This is an argument from common sense.
"Moth(s)" eat clothing, a major form of wealth in the ancient Near East.

Luke 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.

34 For where your **treasure** is, there will your **heart** be also.

❖ Materialism does NOT satisfy.

Isa. 55:1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

2 Wherefore do ye spend money for *that which is not bread?* and **your labour for *that which satisfieth not?*** hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye *that which is good*, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, *even* the sure mercies of David.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of rugged mountains in the background, partially shrouded in mist. In the foreground, a calm lake reflects the surrounding environment, with a line of evergreen trees along the shore. The sky is a mix of soft blues and oranges, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Psa. 62:10 Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: **if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.**

Jn. 6:27 **Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life**, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

❖ All purely physical pleasures have a way of wearing out.

(b) Where the Rust Rots, 6:19b (decays)
– “...and rust doth corrupt...”

Original Word: βρῶσις

Transliteration: brósis

Definition: eating, food

Usage: (a) abstr: eating, (b) food, a meal, (c) rust.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1035.htm>

❖ "Rust" refers to the decay and destructive force of weather, rats, and mildew, not just the corrosion that eats metal.

(c) Where the Thief Robs, 6:19c
(departs or disappears) – “...and
where thieves break through and
steal:”

Original Word: ἀφανίζω

Transliteration: aphanizó

Definition: to make unseen, **destroy**

Usage: I cause to disappear, hide, remove; I **disfigure**
(probably by leaving unwashed for a long period),
destroy.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/853.htm>

❖ The same Greek word is used in Mt. 6:16 and Jas. 4:14:

Mt. 6:16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they **disfigure** their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

Jas. 4:14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then **vanisheth away**.

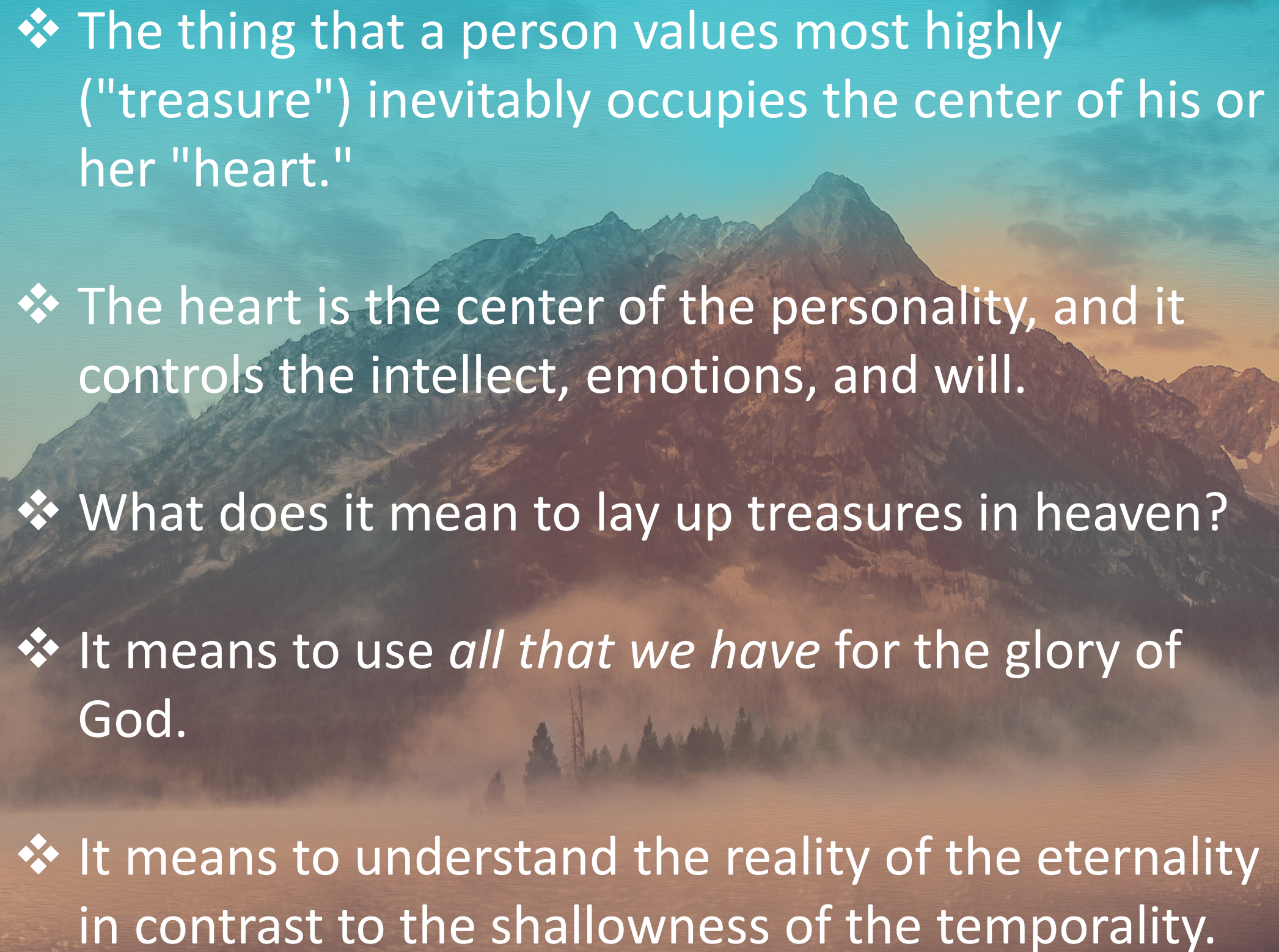
❖ "Thieves" can carry off just about anything in one way or another.

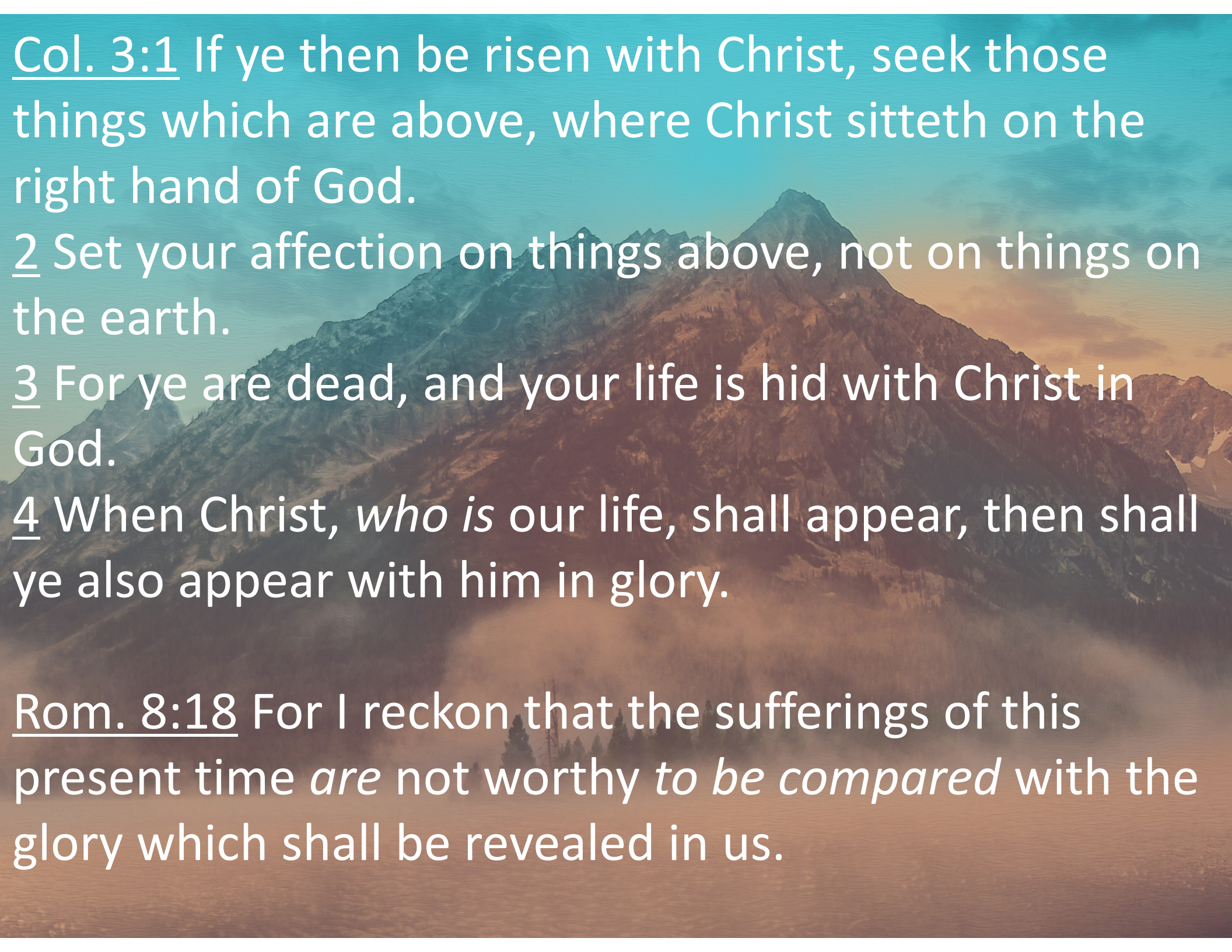
(2) Eternal Treasure, 6:20

Mt. 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

2 Cor. 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

1 Pet. 1:4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

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- ❖ The thing that a person values most highly ("treasure") inevitably occupies the center of his or her "heart."
 - ❖ The heart is the center of the personality, and it controls the intellect, emotions, and will.
 - ❖ What does it mean to lay up treasures in heaven?
 - ❖ It means to use *all that we have* for the glory of God.
 - ❖ It means to understand the reality of the eternality in contrast to the shallowness of the temporality.



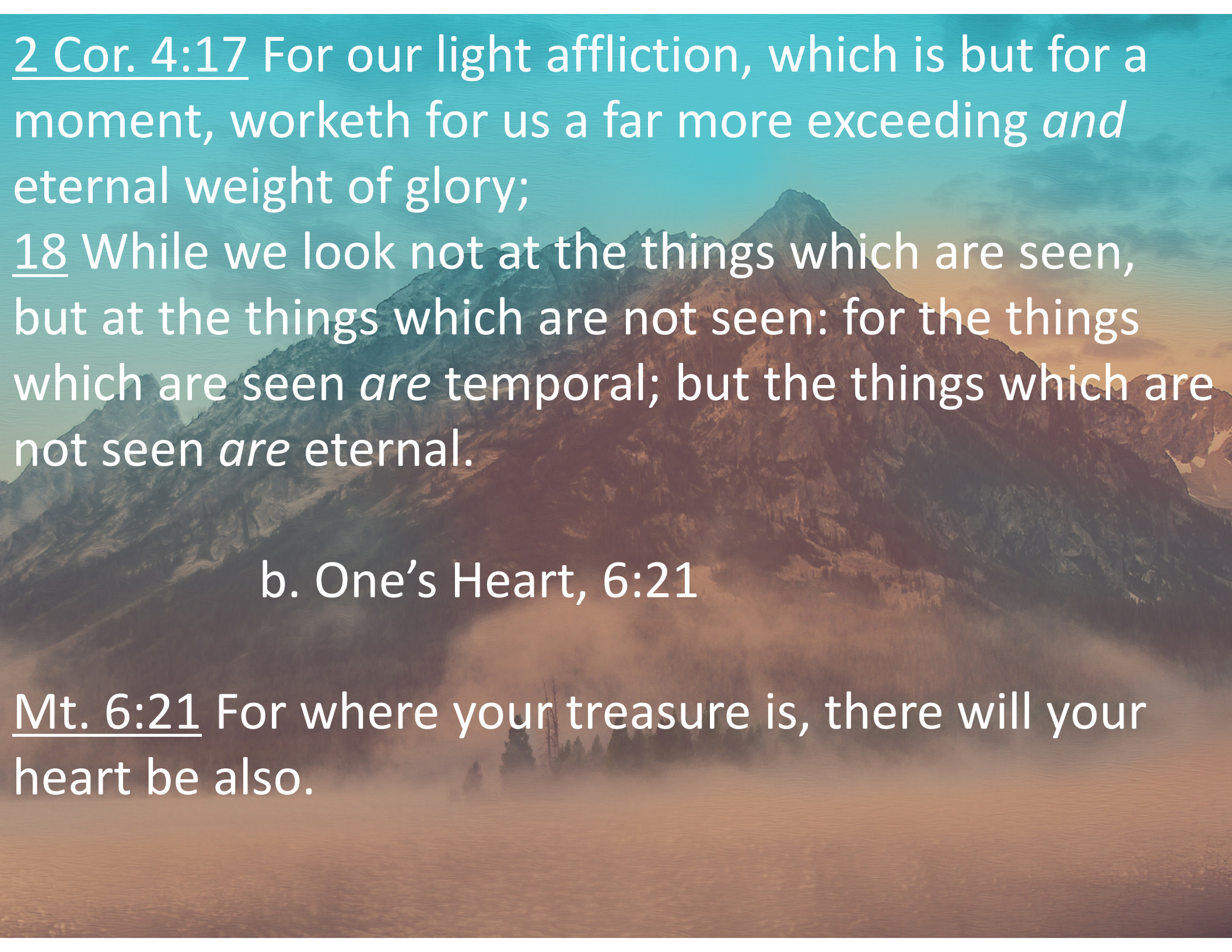
Col. 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Rom. 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are not worthy to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.



2 Cor. 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

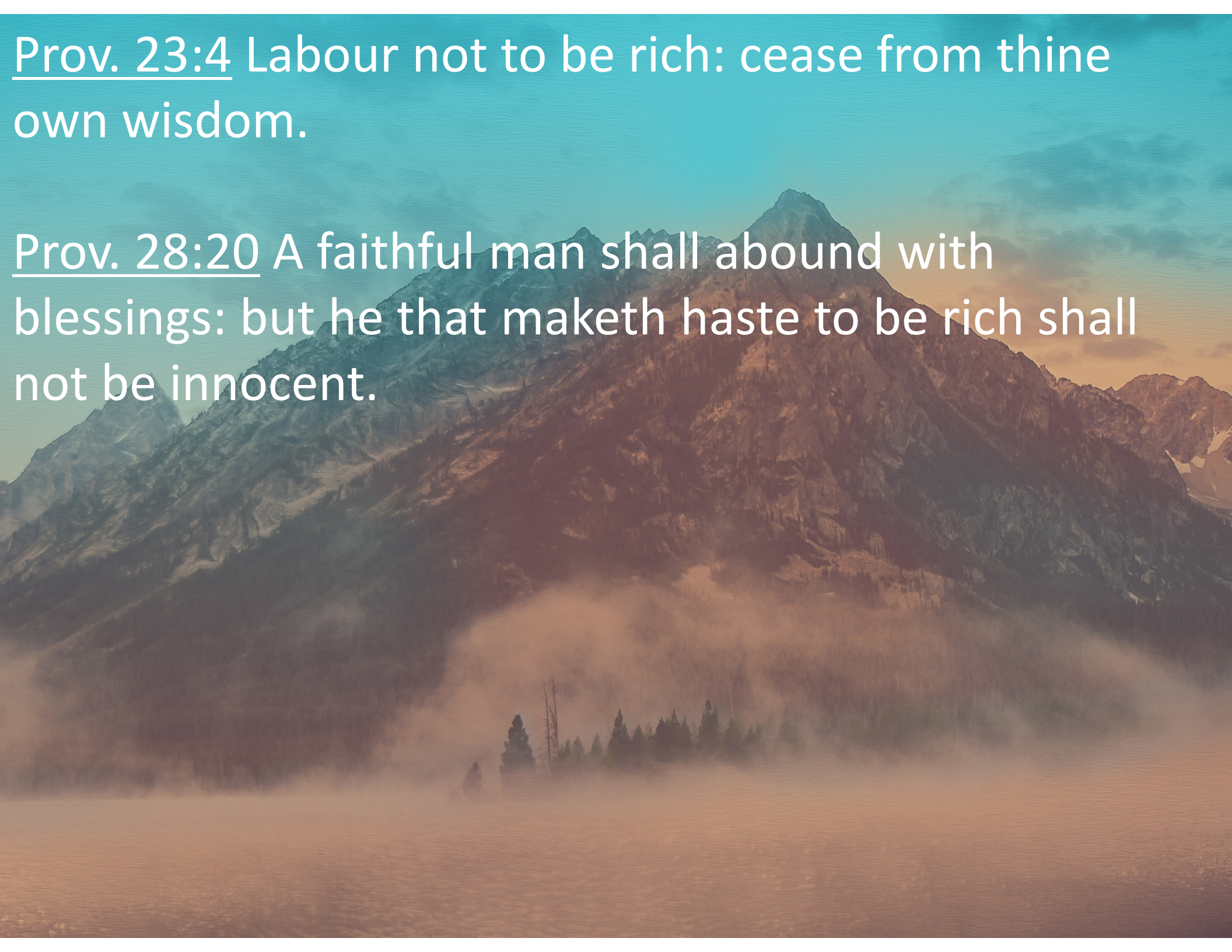
18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

b. One's Heart, 6:21

Mt. 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.


Prov. 23:4 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

Prov. 28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.



Conclusion

1 Tim. 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.
7 For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is certain* we can carry nothing out.
8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.
9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and [into] many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.
10 For **the love of money is the root of all evil**: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.



Deut. 8:18 But **thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth**, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

Jn. 6:27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

Jer. 9:23 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty *man* glory in his might, **let not the rich *man* glory in his riches:**

24 But let him that glorieth **glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me**, that I *am* the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for **in these things I delight, saith the LORD.**