Wealthy Christians

All Christians are wealthy! All Christians are rich! Not in money or things, but in the spiritual blessing of Jesus Christ. Christians are wealthy and rich with forgiveness of sins, answered prayer, the fellowship of loving brethren, and a hope of heaven.

Some first-century Christians were in danger of having their wealth robbed from them and many today face the same danger. Paul wrote Colossians 2 to warn Christians of the danger of being robbed.

The first thing that Paul did in Colossians 2 was to remind the Christians of their wealth (v. 2), their treasure (v. 3), and their prize (v. 18) in Christ. All Christians need a reminder of how wealthy in Christ they really are.

The second thing that Paul did was to identify the robbers of wealth (vv. 4-23). Who or what is it that will rob a Christian? Paul says that enticing words (vv. 4-6), human philosophies (vv. 8-15), the judgments of men (vv. 16-17), improper worship (vv. 18-19), and the commandments of men (vv. 20-23) can rob a Christian of his wealth in Christ.

Today, we still have robbers of wealth and Christians need to be careful not to allow themselves to be robbed. No matter how enticing the world may seem, there is no wealth like the wealth Christians have in Christ. Don't let anyone rob you of your wealth in Christ! - *Chris Reeves*

Up-Coming Events

Gospel Meeting April 20-23 (Thr. through Sat., 7 PM)

- Thr: What Is A Church of Christ?
- Fri: Our Mission In Your Community
- Sat: What Must I Do to Be Saved?
- Sun: That Good Book The Bible (9:30 AM)
- Sun: How NT Christians Worshipped (10:30 AM)
- Sun: Where Did I Come From, Why Am I Here, Where Am I Going? (6 PM)

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ 290 Warfield Blvd. Clarksville, TN 37043

Website WBCOC.org

Assembly Times Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm Wednesday: 7 pm

> Everyone Is Welcome! For More Information Call (931) 647-1324

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THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

April 16, 2017



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. - 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - The Tuesday of Jesus' last week before going to the cross was a long day spent teaching in the temple (the account runs from Matthew 21:18 to Matthew 26:13). During this day, the Jews (Scribes, Pharisees, Herodians, and Sadducees) had been asking Jesus questions, four in all (Matthew 21:23; 22:17; 22:28; 22:36).

Later in the day it was Jesus' turn to ask a penetrating question. He asked them: "What do you think about the Christ, whose son is he?" (The parallel accounts are found in Mark 12:35-37 and Luke 20:41-44). Jesus' question had been talked about so much, but thought about so little. Let's consider a few lessons from this allimportant question.

First, this is a question that requires thinking. Jesus asked: "What do you <u>think</u>...?" Today, we can be lost in sin a number of ways. One way we can be lost has do with our thinking. We are simply not thinking properly about Jesus Christ.

Second, this is a question <u>that cannot</u> <u>be avoided</u>. Jesus asked: "What do <u>you</u> think...?" We may choose to not answer a number of questions in life, but we cannot "plead the 5th" on this question. We cannot simply avoid answering this question. Our eternal destiny depends upon how we answer this question. This question came from Jesus himself (God in the flesh) and it has eternal consequences.

Third, this is a question that teaches a

most important lesson. We learn a lesson about ignorance and humility. We may not know who Jesus really is and we need to be humble enough to admit it. We also learn a lesson about the true nature of Jesus. He is the Christ (in Hebrew, the Messiah, or anointed one). He is not just an ordinary man.

Fourth, this is a question that is <u>practical</u> for all times. This question will help us to be right with God if we will answer it correctly. Many in Jesus' day did not benefit from this question. They kept quiet (Matthew 22:46). Others, however, did benefit. We are told that the common people heard Jesus gladly (Mark 12:37).

Friend, are you thinking about Jesus the Christ today? Unfortunately, some do not think about him at all. This seems unlikely in view of Jesus' great personality, his great influence, and his great work on the cross. Yet, many are too busy, preoccupied, or absorbed with the things of this world to think of Jesus. They have too little interest in Jesus.

Some people today think of Jesus with only technical expertise. They simply look at the facts. This seems unlikely in view of the practical nature Jesus' teaching. He asked people to hear <u>and</u> do what he said (Luke 6:46). Yet, many (like the Pharisees), answer correctly (Matthew 22:46), but do nothing more. They do not obey Jesus.

Some people today think of Jesus with bias. They admit that he was an influential Jew, a great teacher, or an ideal leader, but nothing more. This seems unlikely in view of the vast amount of time spent by Jesus explaining and interpreting the scriptures. Jesus also gave a vast amount of material explaining who he really was. Yet, many have closed minds or they put the wrong interpretations on Jesus' words, claims and person.

Fortunately, some people today think of Jesus in the right way, and you can too. They accept Jesus as the Christ, the anointed prophet, priest and king who came to save all mankind (Psalm 110). Some people today accept Jesus as "the son of David" (his humanity is real) and as "Lord" (his divinity is real). To them, Jesus is more than just an historical character, he's their Lord and savior.

How should you think about Jesus the Christ? First of all, start with the scriptures. Accept the testimony about Jesus Christ in the scriptures as the inspired word of God. Accept the divine glory of Jesus Christ in the scriptures.

What do you think about the Christ? Do you not think at all? Do you think of him with some technical expertise only? Do you think of him with bias or in the wrong way?

Jesus still asks us today: "What do you think about the Christ?" Your character is judged by what *you* think about the Christ! Your eternal destiny is also determined by what *you* think about the Christ! Some in Jesus' day refused to answer this question. Will *you* answer it today? What will your answer be? - Chris Reeves