

### **I. The Choice between two Visions (Verse 22-23)**

- **How do you view material possessions?**
  - Jesus says if we have a single vision we will be full of light
    - If our single vision and purpose in relationship to possessions and material things is that it belongs to God anyways then we will be full of light.
    - We will have a proper understanding that all that we have can and should be used for the Kingdom.
    - God is not asking you to be a steward someone else’s possessions.
  - **Jesus says if we have an evil eye or “double” vision we will be full of darkness.**
    - If we are consumed with materialism and possessions and we use those to fill our own needs then our lives will be full of darkness.
    - Think about this simple truth. The more you have the more work is required to keep those things up.
    - We will be consumed with darkness. Jesus uses the words “how great is that darkness”

### **II. The Choice between two Masters (Verse 24)**

- **As Jesus speaks about serving two masters He has the Master/Slave relationship in mind.**
  - We see this evident in ancient Israel as they tried to serve both the Lord and the false prophets of Baal
  - We can see this evident in the city of Corinth as Paul planted new churches they were being influenced by pagan religions and faith and it caused much division in the church causing Paul to write I and II Corinthians.
  - We can see this being self evident today in the culture that we live in. Christians are trying to serve God and materialism at the same time.
  - Jesus makes this teaching easy to understand. To serve the one is simply to despise the other.
- **Jesus makes this clear to us**
  - We cannot serve God and mammon.
  - The exact meaning of the word mammon does not just mean money. It simply is a Chaldean word that means wealth personified.
  - In short church we can either “Use” wealth to serve God, or wealth will “Use” us and destroy an intimate relationship with God.

### **III. Exhortation to care little for worldly things (Verse 25-32)**

- **We are more than mere animals (verse 25-32)**
  - In this verses Jesus basically tells us life is more than just eating and what we shall wear.
  - If we tie these thoughts back to the previous versus the reality is that if we are simply consumed with what we will eat, drink, and wear then we are missing out on serving in ways that last for eternity.
- **Jesus begins to point to nature for an illustration.**
  - Romans 1:20 “For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.
  - **The birds are provided for by God. (Verse 26)**
    - If God is willing to take care of a little bird how much more is He willing to take care of us.
    - Notice that the bird although he does not worry, he does work!
  - **The lilies of the Field are clothed in splendor (Verse 28-30).**
    - One of the first flowers that we see begin to bloom in the spring is the Easter Lily.
    - It simply amazing to watch God create and bring new life.
- **Can we ourselves add to our days or our stature? (Verse 27)**
  - Over and over studies share that by worrying we actually shorten our lives.
    - Depression, Anxiety, Loss or Gain of weight, heart attack, and a high blood pressure can all be attributed to worry.
- **Do not act like the Greeks or Gentiles. (Verse 31-32)**
  - Jesus’ simple council in relationship to material possessions don’t chase after them.
  - God knows exactly what it is you need and when you need it.

### **IV. Seek first the Kingdom of Heaven and righteousness. (Verse 33-34)**

- **Seek the Kingdom of God (Verse 33)**
  - As I have said numerous times during this series is that Jesus was preaching a message that directed to the Kingdom minded citizen.
  - Jesus is making this obvious again that this is not easy and it is for the Kingdom Minded Citizen.
  - If we seek the Kingdom of God all that we need will be met through Christ.
- **Seek after the Righteousness of God (Verse 33)**
  - There is a righteousness that can only come through being bought and sold out to Jesus.
  - The reality is that the most important thing we should be relentlessly chasing after is the Righteousness of God that comes through knowing Jesus Christ.
- All these things (clothes and food) will be added to you.
- **Take no thought about tomorrow (Verse 34)**

