

# Savior or Stuff?

Wylie United Methodist Church  
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 17, 2013

Matt 6:19-21, 24

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 22-23... 24 "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

We give because...

## 1. JESUS IS OUR LORD

Matt 2:11

On coming to the house, [the wise men] saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

We give because...

## 2. IT'S NOT OUR STUFF, IT'S GOD'S

We are not Owners, we are Stewards.

Stewardship: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.

Kind David said in Psalms 24:1...

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it..."

1 Chron 29:14 (King David responds to God's blessings)

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

We give because...

## 3. GOD WANTS OUR WHOLE HEART

Gen 4:3-5

3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. 4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, 5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor.

Mark 12:41-44

41 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. 43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything-- all she had to live on."

We give because...

## 4. GOD GAVE

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

We Love because God Loved!

We Give because God Gave!

God GAVE His only Son.

You and I are made in His image.

And He is a GIVER. He gave Everything.

As a response to God's great love for me,  
What percentage of my income is He asking me to return to Him?