Jesus, Lord of 2017: Lord of my Stuff

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – January 15, 2017

Matthew 6:19-21, 24

[Jesus said] 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.

If Jesus is Lord of my stuff, then...

1. GIVING IS A NATURAL RESPONSE

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.

If Jesus is Lord of my stuff, then we realize...

2. IT <u>NEVER</u> WAS OUR STUFF IN THE <u>FIRST</u> PLACE

Exodus 23:19

"BRING the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God..."

James 1:17

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father...

Psalms 24:1

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

If Jesus is Lord of my stuff, then we realize...

3. IT'S ALL ABOUT OUR HEART

Gen 4:3-5

3 <u>In the course of time</u> Cain brought <u>some of the fruits</u> 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 <u>favor on Abel and his offering</u>, 5 but <u>on Cain and his offering he</u> did not look with favor.

Mark 12:43

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, <u>this</u> poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.

If Jesus is Lord of my stuff, then...

4. WE <u>GIVE</u> BECAUSE GOD IS A <u>GIVER</u> AND WE ARE <u>CALLED</u> TO BE LIKE HIM

John 3:16

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

Malachi 3:10

Bring the <u>whole tithe</u> into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. <u>Test me in this</u>," says the Lord Almighty, "and <u>see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven</u> and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."