

**God, Your Treasure**      Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time      Friday, June 21, 2019      2 Cor  
11:18, 21-30;      **Mt 6:19-23**      St. Aloysius Gonzaga, religious      (You actually have to want  
God deliberately.)

**“Where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.”**

So we are discussing the move inward in the last chapter and a half of Matthew’s Gospel. It began with the observation that the Law forbids murder, but Jesus says, well “I say he who is angry is guilty of murder.” And then he goes through a similar analysis of adultery and then on to how to love your enemies, how to rid yourself of violence, and then he goes on to the next part of doing good works, righteous deeds, but with the right intention.

Now he is talking about the whole idea of what do you do really with your life; **what is your goal?** Now life itself, at least human life, is about pursuing goals. **It’s always about something people find to be good, and of course it’s very relative.** The good is relative. Some people, for example, think that spending an enormous amount of money on going to ball games is really a good investment; they enjoy it so much. Other people think all games are a waste of time. Some people think the opera is really worthwhile—by the way Aida is playing tonight—but other people don’t. So this is relative, what gives people pleasure, what directs them, what attracts them. This is all different.

**But Jesus’ whole mission is to show people that it’s really God that is the real good in life. All these other things may or may not be good.** Surely there are false goods. There are apparent goods that are not really substantially good, and that’s all things we have to learn. What’s ultimately good is God, **God himself. And so that’s got to be the treasure that our heart desires first and foremost.** If we don’t consciously and deliberately and intentionally make God our treasure, you can be absolutely certain something will take its place, take God’s place. Again, I’ve often mentioned St. Thomas says there are four basic idols or false gods: pleasure, money,

power, fame. And that's pretty good; that's a pretty good analysis of the false possibilities in life. Jesus' point is God has to become actually, deliberately your treasure; **you actually have to want God deliberately.**

Now to do this of course is to be filled with light. Now he used the example of an eye. He says if you have good eyes, well then you are full of light, but if you have bad eyes, then you can't see—that's bad. But now there's also **this inner light that allows us to see God, to see God as the goal and treasure of our hearts.** And that is really what we need; we need that kind of light because "if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be."