

Treasure Principle, Questions from Chapters 1-2

1. How did these first two chapters encourage you? How did they challenge you?
2. Read Matthew 13:44, the parable of the hidden treasure. In what ways are you like this fortunate man? In what ways are you different?
3. Towards the bottom of page 2, Randy Alcorn says: *From the moment of his discovery, the traveler's life changes. The treasure captures his imagination. It's his reference point, his new center of gravity. The traveler takes every new step with this treasure in mind. He experiences a radical paradigm shift.*
 - i. Imagine valuing God's kingdom the way this traveler valued his newly discovered treasure. What would your life be like?
4. On page 3, Alcorn says: *Why did Jesus put such an emphasis on money and possessions? Because there's a fundamental connection between our spiritual lives and how we think about and handle money. We may try to divorce our faith and finances, but God sees them as inseparable.*
 - i. How do the following passages show the connection between our spiritual lives and how we handle money and possessions?
 1. Matthew 2:11
 2. Luke 3:8-14
 3. 2 Chronicles 29:31-33
5. On the bottom of page 14, Alcorn says: *Many Christians think "treasures in heaven" won't be tangible because they imagine Heaven won't be tangible. But the future Heaven, on the New Earth, will not be an intangible state where we float about as disembodied spirits.*
 - i. How do these passages help to counter the argument that Heaven is not tangible.
 1. Matthew 25:21,23
 2. John 14:2
 3. 1 Thess. 4:13-18
 4. Revelation 21:3 and 22:3
6. On pages 19-20, Alcorn points to 1 Timothy 6:18-19. How does Paul's instruction in these verses strengthen the premise that Jesus is indeed talking about tangible material generosity?
7. In light of these two chapters, how do you feel God is calling you to respond? How can we pray for your obedience in this area?