There is, of course, nothing wrong in being fortunate to enjoy more than these. But grasping for more than these leads us away from the light of eternal life and our treasure in heaven.

**DEBT (Mtt 6:24)**

Some people get what they want by borrowing money, and soon find that they become the servants of Mammon. The Bible clearly says, to "Owe nothing to anyone" (Rom 13:8).

Whilst there are other ways to serve Mammon, burdensome debt is by far the most common way.

Remember that what everybody calls "credit" is really not credit at all. It is actually debit! Beware of it. Don’t become its slave.

**WORRY (Mtt 6:25-32)**

Some people become worried and anxious about the necessities of life, especially in difficult times when something interrupts normal livelihood.

The Christian can rest assured that the really necessary things like "our daily bread" will be provided by God. We should "not be anxious about anything, but in everything..." ask God to help us meet our needs (Php 4:6).

Happy is the household that bases its budget on the four simple principles in Matthew 6 which we have just outlined and list below.

**FOUR PRINCIPLES**

1. *Don't trust in uncertain riches.*
2. *Be content — neither needy nor greedy.*
3. *Avoid debt: don't be a slave of mammon.*
4. *Don't be anxious about daily needs.*

**OVERVIEW OF MATTHEW 6**

Matthew chapter six is mostly about attitudes toward money, whether it be our motives for giving money away, or our devotion to storing it up.

When we grasp the certainty that God will bless us with everything we need, if we will cast our cares upon him and serve him wholeheartedly, then life becomes not only bearable but exciting and fruitful.

Our motives for practising religion, our anxieties about the future, our willingness to forgive wrongs committed against us, are all things that depend very much on our outlook toward money and worldly possessions.

Attitudes toward money and possessions affect our relationships with other people, our relationship with God, and the way we see ourselves and our future.

Not least among the things affected is our service to God and the treasure we lay up with him in heaven.

In short, if we have the wrong attitude toward mammon, then we are in danger of losing eternal life with God.

Eternal life ought to be the first and foremost thing in our lives.

Even the necessities of life, such as food and clothing, are less important than eternal life.

As for accumulating wealth beyond the provision of life’s reasonable needs, that is hardly compatible with devotion to Christ, his kingdom, and his righteousness.

You cannot serve God and mammon. That is Jesus’s judgment of the matter.

His attitude is: choose you this day whom you will serve. It cannot be both God and money, and those who try to serve both, play a dangerous game.

Jesus reminds us, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Mtt 6:21).

In this connection he even counsels those who have too much treasure on earth to sell their possessions and give to the poor (Lke 12:33-34).