# Exalting Jesus, Loving People

# Joseph Sprowl Ministries April, 2018



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# Where Are You Putting Your Treasure?

Where are you putting your treasure? Do not gather and heap up and store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust and worm consume and destroy and where thieves break through and steal. But gather and heap up and store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust nor worm consume and destroy and where thieves do not break through and steal; For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt: 6:19-21 (AMPC)

According to these scriptures there are storage places in heaven and on the earth. God wants people to be blessed with heaven's best down here on the earth, He just doesn't want these things taking His place. It is more important to lay up treasures in heaven. When we put our time and energy into spreading the gospel we will be blessed.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Matt. 6:33 (NKJV)

Thus says the Lord: Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am

the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight, says the Lord. Jeremiah 9:23,24 (NKJV)

It's a fact that we need physical, material and financial things upon this earth, but we cannot put them before the Lord. The blessings of the Lord, it maketh rich and He addeth no sorrow with it. Proverbs 10:22 (KJV) This is a part of our covenant with Almighty God. As one person so aptly put it, God doesn't care how much you have as long as it doesn't have you.

Helen and I have moved many times in our almost 34 years of married life in the ministry. The Lord has moved us to places where in the beginning people stayed away from our church in great numbers. We had to leave things behind and start over because that was the Lord's plan for our lives and ministry. I've had people tell me over the course of these many years; "Oh the Lord wouldn't do that would He?" Well Jesus did it! He left the glories of heaven to come and redeem fallen mankind. Man it was tough starting over, but no matter where we have been, we just continued to use our faith and in a matter of time, things would change for the better.

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How and why did this happen? Because from day one we have been laying up for ourselves treasures in heaven and emphasizing that. We're not perfect but we have endeavored to completely follow the Lord with all of our hearts. Our faith is in God and not in man! Believe me, we have paid a dear price in the natural with some of the things the Lord has directed us to do. If you've endeavored to follow the Lord with all of your heart and lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven I'm sure you have paid the price also.

My dear mother used to tell me that we made all of that moving look so easy. I hope that you don't mind me sharing a couple of these testimonies. I hope it stirs up within you how faithful the Lord has been to you in all the seasons of life.

Right after graduation from bible school, Helen and I headed off into the wild blue yonder to pastor our first church. We were not raised in the ministry and Helen thought everyone was an angel until..... The church was small and the unemployment rate in the city where we were pastoring was 30%. It was about nine months before I was able to find a job that would supplement the salary that was promised (haha) and the promised house (haha also). One of the ladies in church came to Helen after church one Sunday and gave her tithe check, she said "Oh I have had this in the bottom of my purse and have been carrying it around for awhile, I had just forgotten to put it in the offering. "

Actually she was hoping that we would quit because she wanted to pastor that church. I'm still talking about laying up for yourselves treasures in heaven. We just kept preaching and teaching and being a blessing to that church and city.

Another situation—the Lord moved us to a major city to be with a major ministry except for the fact that they didn't know it. We moved in faith, based on the prompting of the Lord. We put in our resumes and were told later that if the job positions we filled were made public they would have had 500 applications to sift through. That time was rewarding but extremely challenging. When we went there many people thought that our jobs were all lined up for us with a humongous salary. NOT! I cannot even begin to tell you how difficult some of those people were to work with. Is God still God even when things look their worst? Keep laying up for vourselves treasures in heaven and He will see to it that you come through all of the challenges of life.

How do you do this? Give and it will be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38 NKJV Live to give!

That is what Jesus was talking about. He was telling the people in Matt. 6, not to worry or fret or be anxious or to hoard things.

Where are you putting your treasure?



"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

**Matt. 6:21** (AMPC)

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Helen and I have poured more than one alabaster box over Jesus. We gave more than one entire offering to a guest speaker when there was nothing in the general fund for us. It was a joy to do it as unto the Lord. Our flesh and soul didn't care for it, but our spirits were joyful in the Lord. Your giving doesn't go unnoticed by God. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister." Hebrews 6:10 (KJV) Heaven's bank is not based on the federal reserve system or some financial lending institution. It is not linked to the world's economy.

Now allow me to conclude this newsletter with just one of the great things the Lord has done for us. Helen and I owned a 2002 van that had close to 200,000 miles on it and it had been a tremendous blessing in the work of the Lord. Anyway I asked our partners to agree with us for a new vehicle. We praised and thanked the Lord everyday for two years and sowed extra seed for the car. We received a call one day to go out and get our new vehicle. No payments either, praise the Lord! We have been using it in the work of the Lord for nearly four years now!

As you go about serving the Lord, setting your affection on things above, doing things His way, living a life of praise, worship and thanksgiving, you can expect His best in your life. Allow your prayer to be, "I do not live for myself, I live for others. My treasure is not on the earth." Constantly remind yourself that your treasure is not on the earth, it is in heaven. You're just passing through. You are on your way to a fairer land. I pray the Holy Spirit will stir up your heart today so that you may have the revelation of this truth.

JSM Special Meeting this April, 2018

Make Plans Now to Attend!

WHEN: Friday, April 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. WHERE: Ashland Faith Family Church,

819 Scott Street, Ashland, OH 44805

**Special Praise and Worship and Anointed Teaching** 

Come and be blessed and refreshed in the presence of the Lord!!

Child Care will be available

For More Information Please Call: 419-775-6334 or 419-631-4570

#### **Check out our web-site**

<u>Check our web-site</u>—<u>www.josephsprowlministries.com</u>—If you are not able to tune in to "God's Unchanging Word" broadcast on Sunday mornings on one of the stations listed on the back of this newsletter or you want to hear it over again, you can now go to our web-site, and click on media/broadcast and listen to "God's Unchanging Word" broadcasts that have been archived since May 15, 2016. Get the Word of God down on the inside of you!

# Pray for our Nation

Scripture for Praying for the Nation

I Tim. 2:1-4 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men., for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.





Vote in the midterm elections for men and women of God that will uphold Godly principles for this nation and then continue to pray for them.

## RADIO



## "God's Unchanging Word" Broadcast is on Four Stations!

<u>WMAN 1400 AM</u>, & <u>98.3 FM</u>, <u>Mansfield</u>, <u>OH</u>
Each Sunday morning, 8:15 a.m.- 8:30 a.m. The program also streams on the internet at WMANFM

WLRD 96.9 FM, Willard, OH

Each Sunday Morning, 9:00 a.m.- 9:15 a.m.-Streams on the internet WLRD.net

WGGN FM 97.7, Castalia, (Sandusky, OH) Each Sunday morning, 9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m. The program also streams on the internet at fm977.net.



THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE PARTNERING WITH PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT! WE APPRECIATE YOU SO MUCH!

### PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAISE AND THANK THE LORD WITH US!

- That our partner base will continue to grow and expand.
- That doors for ministry would continue to open for both of us. Favor with pastors/church leaders.
- Boldness/and manifestations and demonstrations of the Holy Spirit.
- 4. Finances for the radio outreach.

To those who would like to *begin* to partner with us financially, checks may be made out to: Joseph Sprowl Ministries and mailed to 1228 King Road, Ashland, OH 44805.

You can also give through PAYPAL over our internet web site which accepts all major credit or bank cards at www.JosephSprowlMinistries.com.