

who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:17-21).

There is only one solution to this warning: turn from your sin before it is too late and trust in Jesus Christ. This is the word of reconciliation that God has graciously given to this neighborhood. Come and hear this message. This message is the only lasting treasure on earth. "I rejoice at Your word as one who finds great treasure" (Ps. 119:162). "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." (Matt. 13:44).

While others set their hope on winning the lottery, making lots of money in the current high-tech boom, or building a great pension, and perhaps retiring early, we have our hope in the only lasting treasure: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We do not want you to miss this wonderful treasure. So we warmly invite you to join us for worship some Sunday soon.

Please join us for worship on Sunday: 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 AM
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting: 7:30 PM

If you have found this tract helpful and wish to discuss it further, or would like information on church services, please call me:

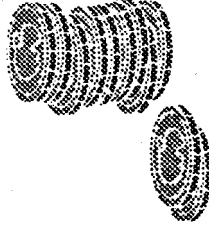
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HIDDEN



TREASURE

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There is a hidden treasure right here in your neighborhood. Unlike most hidden treasures, this treasure is visible. How can it be hidden then? Because you have looked at it many times, but you did not recognize what it really is. It is located at the corner of Brook and Hazel streets. It is gray with white trim, with a beautiful steeple topped with a white spire pointing to heaven.

"O yes," you say, "That's Westminster Presbyterian Church. And now Amoskeag Presbyterian Church owns the building. But where's the treasure?" Well the problem is that the treasure that is hidden there is not visible to the human eye. It looks like just another old church building with ordinary people going in and out each Sunday and Wednesday.

The Bible says "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us" (2 Cor. 4:7). What treasure? The Bible goes on to say: "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Cor. 4:6). "But why can't I see this treasure?" Because sin has blinded your spiritual sight. The Bible gives the reason: "But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe..." (2 Cor. 4:3,4). "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7). Faith comes through accepting the message of the Gospel, which means "Good News." Faith "sees" the treasure.

The problem is that people don't want to believe the Bad News that they are sinners, rebels against their Creator. Each of us is under God's wrath and curse. That is why we die, and why the world is filled with so many problems. Ever since Adam chose to try and live his life independently of God, death has been in the world, and everyone has been separated from his/her Creator.

But God is such a wonderful God that he sent His only begotten Son into this poor world to live the kind of life which pleases God, so that when He died on the cross, He satisfied God's justice and opened the way for sinners like you and me to be forgiven and reinstated in a living relationship with our Creator. The Bible calls this "everlasting life".

This is the message that is preached at Amoskeag Presbyterian Church. The Bible also teaches that the church is like an embassy. In this case the foreign power represented by the embassy is the Kingdom of God. We, as ambassadors of Christ the King of that kingdom, have been sent with the message of reconciliation, of amnesty. That is why God has placed us in this neighborhood. We are here to plead with you: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God." (2 Cor. 5:20).

Christ died to remove the enmity between God and you. If you will admit your sin and guilt for not loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself, and entrust your life to Jesus Christ, the Lord has a wonderful promise: "Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Cor. 5:17).

The problem is that the people of this world have their hearts set on a different treasure: the things of this lost world, "men of the world *who have* their portion in *this* life, ... They are satisfied with children, and leave the rest of their *possession* for their babes. As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness." (Ps. 17:14,15). "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matt. 6:19-21).

Jesus gave us this sobering parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, *and* be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he