



Where Your  
**TREASURE**  
Is

Edward W. Bauman

A STUDY GUIDE FOR THE FILM AND TV COURSE

# WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS

by  
Edward W. Bauman  
of the faculties of  
The American University  
and  
Wesley Theological Seminary  
Washington, D.C.  
and  
Senior Minister  
Foundry United Methodist Church  
Washington, D.C.

An exploration of the biblical teaching on the subject of money and possessions and how they affect our relationship with God.

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# Foreword

This study guide is prepared to assist the student in making the most of his study of the film and television course, "Where Your Treasure Is." The course outline in this booklet follows the session sequence in the films and on the television programs.

The course may be supplemented by group discussions arranged by interested students viewing the sessions on film or television.

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**Bauman Bible Telecasts**  
3436 Lee Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22207

Phone (703) 243-1300



# Expressions of Gratitude

for production assistance

Elsie Karo, Producer  
Dorothy Johnson, Assistant Producer

for general editing and coordination of the project

Audree Bauman  
Jean MacArthur

for cover art, typography and layout

Lois Hertzler

for the meditations

Dorothy Johnson

for making the program possible

WJLA-TV  
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# Purpose

Ralph Waldo Emerson observed in 1844, "Money is hardly spoken of in parlors without an apology." The same thing used to be true also of sex, anger, and death. Today, we feel free to talk about all three of these, but personal feelings about money are still a taboo subject. This is true even though money is on our minds every day and plays a critical role in determining our quality of life.

Dr. James Knight, a professor of psychiatry, observed, "Patients show far less resistance in relating their hatred for their parents or in disclosing sexual perversities than in discussing their money or financial transactions. It is as if they equated money with their inmost being."

In contrast to this modern attitude toward personal feelings about money, biblical writers spoke freely on the subject. Jesus talked more about money and possessions than any other topic except for the kingdom of God, the dominant theme of his life and ministry. He warned us in no uncertain terms of the destructive power of certain attitudes toward money, but his teaching on this matter was not all negative. He made it clear that money can enhance our relationship with God and contribute to our wholeness of life.

How can we protect ourselves from the terrible threat money poses in our lives? How can we possess and share our financial resources in life-enhancing ways? What is the best way to get in touch with the feelings of anxiety, fear, insecurity, guilt, and anger which money arouses in most of us? How can we deal with these feelings in a positive and constructive way? The Bible helps us face these *psychological* questions honestly and creatively.

But the biblical writers are also concerned about the *sociological* problems involved in wanting and owning money and

possessions. What obligations do the rich have toward the poor? What can be done about the just distribution of wealth in a society where a few persons have more than they need and most persons do not have enough? Do we have a responsibility to future generations in the use of our natural resources? How can we give to those in need in ways that will enhance rather than diminish their self-image and their self-respect?

By spending time with the biblical teaching on this subject we can move from fear and bondage into joy and freedom. We can allow the cleansing and healing light of God's presence to move into this area of our inmost being. Jesus can teach us the truth about ourselves and our money, and this truth will "set us free." We will become free to live and free to die in the fullness of being which God's grace provides for us.

According to the biblical writers, the purpose of our existence is to enter into a life-giving relationship with God. This relationship, the pearl of great price, can be diminished or enhanced by our attitude toward money. The purpose of this series, therefore, is to contribute to wholeness of life by exploring the biblical teaching on the subject of money and possessions.

In this way we can enter into a life-transforming process which will set us free to "enjoy" and "share" our possessions as true gifts from God to be used for his glory and for the full enhancement of our human existence as individuals and in our life together.

# Format

Viewers are always encouraged to develop their own ideas and conclusions in response to the presentation of basic ideas in each session. The approach will make use of the best scholarly material available in many fields, as well as art, music, poetry, and contemporary literature. It will be nonsectarian and ecumenical. Alternative views will be presented on important points where there are serious differences of opinion.

An unrehearsed discussion of the major problems arising in the study, by a panel of persons representing many points of view, is part of each program as presented on television.

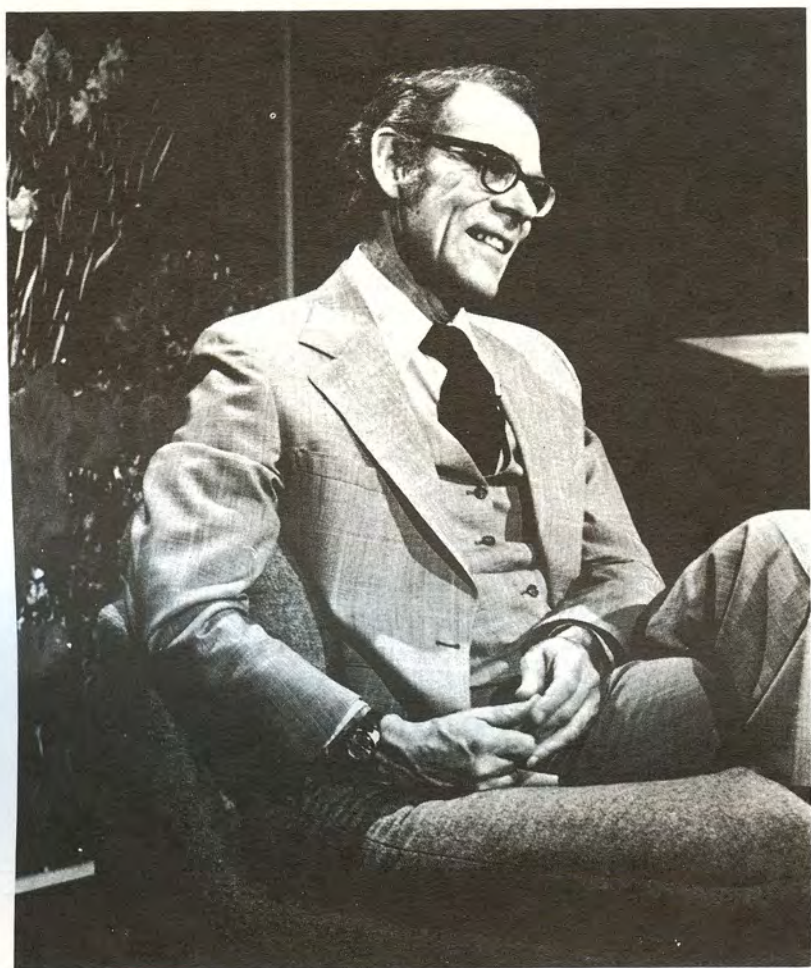
## Reading Material

*The Bible* is the major source book for the series. Unless otherwise noted, The Revised Standard Version will be used in the course.

This *Study Guide* for "Where Your Treasure Is" is available from Bauman Bible Telecasts. It provides a brief introduction to each session, detailed commentary on the text, supplementary readings, questions for study and discussion, and reproductions of great works of art which are related to the study.

Viewers are urged to read the Bible passages and the study guide prior to each session.





*Dr. Edward W. Bauman*

## ...Edward W. Bauman

Dr. Edward W. Bauman communicates the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ in a way that reaches the hearts of countless people of many faiths and backgrounds. His great spiritual and intellectual gifts are enhanced by an unceasing search for God's truth and used with total commitment to Christ.

An A.B. degree from DePauw University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, was followed by an S.T. B. degree magna cum laude from Boston University School of Theology and a Ph.D. degree in Systematic Theology from Boston University Graduate School. After serving pastorates in Massachusetts and Ohio, in 1957 he came to Washington, D.C., as Chaplain and Assistant Professor of Religion at American University, and a year later was chosen to conduct the first college-credit television course in religion to be shown on a commercial station. His television ministry has continued ever since.

In 1959, he joined the faculty of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, and in 1964 became the Senior Minister of Foundry United Methodist Church, one of Washington's historic downtown churches. It is with good reason that contemporary theologians consider him one of America's foremost authorities on church renewal. Under his leadership Foundry Church is a vital, active community of Christians, drawing members from miles around and constantly expanding its ministry to members and its mission to others. He has received two honorary degrees, and his television program has won many awards. In 1979 he was selected by TIME Magazine as one of seven outstanding preachers in the United States.

Dr. Bauman is Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology and Christian Ethics at Wesley Seminary and has a weekly radio program. He has traveled extensively throughout the world, including seven trips to the Holy Land. In addition to many study guides for the television series, he has written four books: *Intercessory Prayer*; *Introduction to the New Testament*; *The Life and Teaching of Jesus*; and *Beyond Belief*.

If one  
sows  
in the  
Field of the Spirit  
one will  
get from  
it a  
harvest of  
Eternal  
Life

Galatians 6:8

*Calligraphy by Sr. Sylvia Bielen, O.P. Sisters of St. Dominic,  
Newburgh, New York.*