
“... Scripture cannot be broken” – John 10:35 (ESV)
“... ug ang kasulatan dili man gayod masayop” – John 10:35 (RCPV)

Bible Discussion

SEEKING RICHES

Q: How do you understand Matt 6:33? _____

Matthew 6:33

(ESV) But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
(Ang Biblia 2011) Apan maoy unaha ninyo pagpangita ang gingharian sa Dios ug ang iyang pagkamatarong ug kining tanan idugang kaninyo.

Be careful of the Cebuano version, **Ang Bag-ong Maayong Balitang Biblia**, it does not translate Matt 6:33 word-for-word but paraphrases it in a sense that the deeper meaning of this verse is lost.

Matthew 6:33

(Ang Bag-ong Maayong Balitang Biblia) Apan labaw sa tanan, paharia ninyo ang Dios ug pagkinabuhi kamo yon sa iyang kabubut-on ug ang ubang mga butang ihatag ra niya kaninyo.

Q: Would you agree that Matt 6:33 is a formula to obtaining riches by seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness? If Matt 6:33 promises that we will receive all these things (or profit) if we seek God first, then how come in 1 Tim 6:5 the mindset of obtaining riches through godliness (following God) is not acceptable? _____

1 Timothy 6:3-5

(ISV) **3** If anyone teaches false doctrine and refuses to agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, and godly teaching, **4** he is a conceited person and does not understand anything. He has an unhealthy craving for arguments and debates. This produces jealousy, rivalry, slander, evil suspicions, **5** and incessant conflict between people who are deprived in mind and deprived of truth. **They think that godliness is a way to make a profit.**

(Ang Biblia 2011) **3** Kon adunay tawo nga nagtudlo ug sukwahi niini ug wala mouyon sa maayong mga pulong sa atong Ginoong Jesu-Cristo ug sa pagtulun-an nga sibo sa pagkadiosnon, **4** kini siya nagpagarbo sa iyang kaugalingon, wala siyay nahibaloan kondili nagkabuang sa mga pagpakiglantugi ug pagpakiglalis nga mosangpot sa kasina, pagbahinbahin, pagsulti ug pagdaot sa uban, daotan nga mga katahap, **5** ug paglalisay sa mga tawo nga dunot ug panghunahuna ug nakabsan sa kamatuoran, **nagdahom nga ang pagkadiosnon maoy paagi sa pagpadato.**

Q: Why is Matthew 6:33 offering both God and things, while Luke 16:13 is separating God from things? _____

Luke 16:13

(ESV) No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

(Ang Biblia 2011) Walay sulugoon nga makahimo pag-alagad ug duha ka agalon kay mahitabo man nga dumtan niya ang usa ug higugmaon ang ikaduha o labanan niya ang usa ug tamayon ang ikaduha. Dili kamo makaalagad sa Dios ug sa mga bahandi.”

Maybe if we dissect Matthew 6:33, we will come to understand if it is in agreement or in contradiction with Luke 16:13.

The three parts of Matthew 6:33 are:

- **FIRST PART:** seek first the kingdom of God
- **SECOND PART:** seek God’s righteousness
- **THIRD PART:** receiving all these things

Q: In the first part of Matt 6:33, does it address people who already found the kingdom of God? _____

Q: If you have not found the kingdom of God, then how do you seek the kingdom of God? [See Matt 3:2, 4:17; Mark 1:15] _____

Matthew 3:2

(ESV) “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

(Ang Biblia 2011) “Paghinulsol kamo, kay ang gingharian sa langit nagkaduol na.”

Matthew 4:17

(ESV) From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

(Ang Biblia 2011) Sukad niadtong higayona si Jesus misugod sa pagwali nga nag-ingon, “Paghinulsol kamo kay ang gingharian sa langit duol na.”

Mark 1:15

(ESV) and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

(Ang Biblia 2011) ug nag-ingon, “Ang panahon miabot na, ug ang gingharian sa Dios ania na. Paghinulsol ug tuo kamo sa Maayong Balita.”

Q: If seeking the kingdom of God is the repentance of sins, and though there are many sins mentioned in the bible, in relation to this discussion, what sins in particular are enumerated in 1 John 2:15-16?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

1 John 2:15-16

(ESV) **15** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the **desires of the flesh** and the **desires of the eyes** and **pride of life**—is not from the Father but is from the world.

(Ang Biblia 2011) **15** Ayaw ninyo higugmaa ang kalibotan o ang mga butang diha sa kalibotan. Kon may nahigugma sa kalibotan, ang gugma sa Amahan wala diha kaniya. **16** Kay ang tanan nga anaa sa kalibotan, ang **pangibog sa unod** ug ang **pangibog sa mga mata** ug ang **garbo sa kinabuhi**, dili gikan sa Amahan kondili sa kalibotan.

Q: What is “desires of the flesh”? [see Galatians 5:19-26] _____

Galatians 5:19-21

(ESV) **19** Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, **20** idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, **21** envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

(Ang Biblia 2011) **19** Ug dayag kaayo ang mga buhat sa unod nga mao kini: salawayong pakighilawas, kahugaw, kaulag, **20** pagsimba ug mga diosdios, pagsalamangka, pagdinumtanay, panagbingkil, pangabubho, kapungot, kahakog, pagkabahinbahin, pagpundokpundok, **21** kasina, paghuboghubog, mapatuyangong hudyaka ug mga butang nga sama niini. Pasidan-an ko kamo sama sa akong pagpasidaan kaninyo kaniadto, nga ang mga nagbuhat sa maong mga butang dili makapanunod sa gingharian sa Dios.

Q: What is “desires of the flesh”? [see Joshua 7:21; Psalms 119:37; Ecc 4:8; Matt 4:8] _____

Joshua 7:21

(ESV) when I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar, and 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath.”

(Ang Biblia 2011) Sa akong pagkakita, uban sa mga nangaguba, sa usa ka matahom nga kupo gikan sa Sinar ug duha ka gatos ka siklo nga plata ug usa ka barita nga bulawan nga 50 ka siklo ang gibug-aton, naibog ako niini ug akong gikuha. Ug ania, akong gilubong sa yuta sulod sa akong tolda uban sa plata nga anaa sa ilalom.”

Psalms 119:37

(ESV) Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Ilikay ang akong mga mata gikan sa pagtan-aw sa kakawangan; hatagi ako ug kadasig diha sa imong mga dalan.

Ecclesiastes 4:8

(ESV) one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, “For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?” This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

(Ang Biblia 2011) usa ka tawo nga nag-inusara, walay anak o igsoon, apan walay kataposan ang tanan niyang paghago, ug ang iyang mga mata wala gayod matagbaw sa mga bahandi, mao nga siya mangutana, “Alang kang kinsa ako naghago ug naghikaw sa akong kaugalingon sa kalipay?” Kini usab kakawangan ug usa ka makasusubo nga buluhaton.

Matthew 4:8

(ESV) Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Unya gidala na usab siya sa yawa ngadto sa usa ka habog kaayong bukid ug kaniya iyang gipakita ang tanang gingharian sa kalibotan ug ang ilang kahimayaan,

Q: What is “pride of life”? [see Daniel 4:30; James 4:16] _____

Daniel 4:30

(ESV) and the king answered and said, “Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?”

(Ang Biblia 2011) ug ang hari miingon, “Dili ba kini mao ang bantogang Babilonia nga akong gitukod ingon nga harianong puluy-anan pinaagi sa akong dakong gahom ug alang sa dungog sa akong pagkahalangdon?”

James 4:16

(ESV) As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Apan karon nanghambog kamo sa inyong pagkaandakan. Daotan ang maong pagpangandak.

Q: When you seek the kingdom of God, would you still have the “desires of the flesh” and the “pride of life”? Would you agree that God’s prerequisite for you to have “all these things” is that you should have no more attachment to worldly things? _____

Q: Going forward to the second part of Matt 6:33, how do you seek God’s righteousness? [see Deut 6:25; Phil 3:9] _____

Deuteronomy 6:25

(ESV) And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.’

(Ang Biblia 2011) Ug kini mahimong pagkamatarong alang kanato kon kita magmatngon sa pagtuman niining tanang kasugoan sa atubangan sa Ginoo nga atong Dios sumala sa iyang gisugo kanato.’

Philippians 3:9

(ESV) and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—

(Ang Biblia 2011) ug makaplagn diha kaniya, dili nga nagbaton ako sa pagkamatarong pinasikad sa Balaod, kondili ang pagkamatarong nga pinaagi sa pagtuo kang Cristo, ang pagkamatarong nga gikan sa Dios nga nagsukad sa pagtuo.

Q: Would it be surprising to know that seeking God’s righteousness, as described by Deut 6:25 & Phil 3:9, is exactly the character of saints as described in Rev 14:12? _____

Revelation 14:12

(ESV) Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Mao kini ang paglahutay sa mga balaan, sa mga nagtuman sa kasugoan sa Dios ug sa pagtuo kang Jesus.

Q: What happens when we seek God’s righteousness (Matt 5:6)? Does it have an effect for our want of things? _____

Matthew 5:6

(ESV) “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

(Ang Biblia 2011) “Bulahan ang mga gigutom ug giuhaw sa katarong kay sila tagbawon.

Q: When we seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness, how does it change our perspective in asking for things? [see 1 John 5:14; James 4:3] _____

1 John 5:14

(ESV) And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Ug ang atong nabatonang pagsalig kaniya mao kini, nga kon mangayo kita ug bisan unsa sumala sa iyang kabubut-on, siya mamati gayod kanato.

James 4:3

(ESV) You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Nangayo kamo apan wala makadawat niini tungod kay sayop man ang inyong pagpangayo, aron lamang usik-usikan alang sa inyong mga pangibog.

Q: When we seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and eventually lose our attachment or desire for worldly things, would God bless us? If He will, for what reason? [see 2Cor 9:11] _____

2 Corinthians 9:11

(ESV) You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

(Ang Biblia 2011) Sa tanang butang kamo iyang padatoon ngadto sa tumang pagkamahinatagon ug makapahimo sa mga tawo nga mapasalamaton sa Dios pinaagi kanamo.

SUMMARY

It seems that Matthew 6:33 is not a simple verse with a simple message. It is deep and profound and can be presented with the following message:

Matthew 6:33	Message
Seek first the kingdom of God ...	Repent from all of your sins, especially from your desire of worldly things.
... and His righteousness.	Keep the commandments of God and your faith in Christ Jesus, and you will have satisfaction.
And all these things will be added to you.	You will be blessed in every way so you can become more generous.