What to Spend

I would rather have a great scope than a great gun. Your gun will work when you pull the trigger, but if you can't see where to place the bullet, the gun is useless. If you can't rely on bullet placement, why even hunt or target shoot? I'll never understand how people can take a week or more vacation, spend \$1000.00 on a rifle, and sometimes thousands on a hunt, and buy a \$150.00 scope mounted on \$20.00 rings and bases. I know of many ruined hunts, countless dollars lost, and guns wrapped around trees because of faulty scopes. I would rather spend \$500.00 on a gun and \$500.00 on a scope in good rings and bases, and lots of ammo and trigger time getting to intimately know my gun. During hunting situations, you often have enough to think about, including concealment, scent, and often at high elevations, just breathing. You shouldn't have to think about having to work your gun.

Put silk tapestry over a pressboard couch and you still have a piece of junk. A cheap Walmart two ton jack may work once or twice before it folds into itself like a crushed beer can. Spend as much as you can afford on your new rifle scope, and less on the firearm or something else if you have to, but get good glass you can count on, and learn how to use it well. Use a rangefinder if you want, but for long shots, you must know your bullet's trajectory and be confident that you can place all your shots in the vital area of your quarry every time. Good glass makes it easier for success.