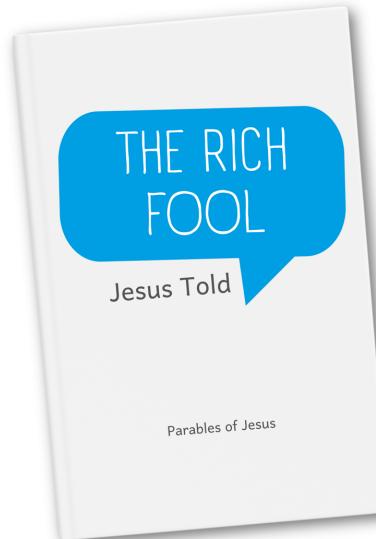


Questions

1. Why do you think that Jesus' teaching so often concerns money and possessions? Does that seem odd to you? Why or why not?
2. What are some temptations related to money, possessions, and wealth that could inhibit someone's wholehearted pursuit of Jesus Christ and of living a life of service to him? What are some of the particular struggles that you experience in relation to the way you think about, worry about, or use money?
3. What echoes of foolishness of the "rich fool" do you see within the plans, schemes, and intentions of people around you today? Where do you see his same arrogant attitude arising in your heart?
4. How can you, with the Spirit's help, seek to trust God more in an area of worry? How can you invest in Christ's eternal kingdom more generously?
5. How can this passage tweak the way you think about your money and earthly possessions? What areas of your life—particularly those of money and possessions—need to be brought more in line with the priorities of Christ's eternal kingdom?

*After each service, if you need prayer,
someone will be available up front to pray with you.*

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Luke 12:13-34

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In the parable of The Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21), Jesus warns against materialism, but the parable is set in a larger teaching on the topic.

In Luke 12:13-34, Jesus teaches on materialism and provides two profiles of materialism with the remedy for both to help us treasure God above all.

Greed and worry are two sides of the same coin of materialism. "Greed can *never get* enough, and worry is afraid it may *not have* enough."

THE FIRST PROFILE OF MATERIALISM: GREED (vv.13-21)

"Greed" can also be translated as "covetousness". Either way, the meaning is an insatiable desire for more.

Greed is sinful idolatry. (Col. 3:5) An idol is anything or anyone that captures your heart, mind, and affections more than God. It's something other than God that you find your peace, comfort, satisfaction, joy, contentment in.

The Rich Man's Foolishness:

- A foolish understanding of _____ & _____
- A foolish understanding of _____
- A foolish understanding of _____
- A foolish understanding of _____

Ultimately, theologically, greed is storing up treasure for self and not being rich towards God.

THE SECOND PROFILE OF MATERIALISM: WORRY (vv.22-30)

The word "Therefore" connects this passage to the previous.

Worry as materialism is afraid it may *not have* enough.

5 Arguments for Why We Shouldn't Worry but Trust in God

1. God, and our relationship with Him, is the meaning of life.
2. Since God provides for the birds, are we are more valuable than they, we ought to then trust God will surely provide for us.

3. Worry gets you nowhere, so trust in God.
4. Since God cares for the flowers, we ought to then trust He will surely provide for our needs.
5. Anxiety if functional atheism, but we have a Heavenly Father, so we ought to trust Him.

THE REMEDY FOR BOTH PROFILES (vv.31-34)

These verses (31-34) are kinda restatement and expansion of verse 21, but in concrete application.

Our hearts are central. It's a matter of treasure. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (v.34)

The First Remedy: Love God (vv.31-32)

The Second Remedy: Love Neighbor (v.33)