

HOPE IN GOD

PSALM
43:5

Sunday Morning, February 18, 2024 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: Hope within God's Economy

Message Text: Luke 12:13-34

Introduction

The economies of this world are very uncertain. We observe their fluctuation day by day. Presently, there is much conversation centered around the weakening of the American dollar and how that will impact the rest of the world. Our national debt continues to climb and threatens our stability. Individually, Americans face uncertainty brought about cost increase of groceries, houses, cars and goods used in daily life. All this is coupled with the ever present discontent among consumers. It seems a life of anxiety and worry mixed is almost unavoidable for the average American. But is this what God desires for followers of Jesus Christ? Let's consider what Jesus taught his disciples concerning covetousness, worry-free living and seeking first the Kingdom of God.

1. A Caution against _____ (13-21)

A. A Relational _____ (13-15)

Luke 12:13–15 And one of the company said unto him, Master, speake to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me. 14 And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you? 15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

FAMILY QUARREL OVER MONEY

NOTE — Jesus did not take the role of a public official or an arbiter in this situation. *He addressed the heart of the matter that was causing the conflict.*

scan for
sermon notes



DEFINITION—COVETOUSNESS: greediness; the excessive and immoderate desire of acquiring more and more (wealth).

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Exodus 20:17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

B. A Relatable _____ (16-21)

PARABLE—a short moral story with a symbolic meaning. Sixteen of the twenty-nine recorded parables of Christ were related to money or possessions.

A SELF-FOCUSED AGRICULTURALIST

Luke 12:16–18 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

A BOASTFUL ATTITUDE

Luke 12:19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

James 4:16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

A DIVINE ASSESSMENT

Luke 12:20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

DEFINITION—FOOL: ignorant; lacking good judgement

A PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Luke 12:21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

DEFINITION—LAYETH UP: amassing, accumulating

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

2. A Consideration of God's _____ (22-30)

NOTE —God is the *owner* and *provider* of all that a disciple *has and needs*.

A. No Need for _____ (22-23)

Luke 12:22-23 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. 23 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

DEFINITION—TAKE NO THOUGHT: to worry; to be anxious

NOTE —We are not to worry about lifespans, groceries, our bodies or clothing.

Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

B. No End of God's _____ (24-30)

Luke 12:24-30 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? 25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? 26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? 27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you,

REALITIES CONCERNING FOOD, LIFESPAN AND CLOTHING

Luke 12:28-30 ...O ye of little faith? 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

QUOTE: If we belong to God, then it is His obligation to care for us; so we need not worry.—Wiersbe

QUOTE: The rich are prone to be covetous, and the poor are prone to worry. Both are sins.—Wiersbe

**God is the owner and provider
of all that we have and need.**

3. Commands for Kingdom _____ (31-34)

A. Seek God's _____ First (31-32)

Luke 12:31-32 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. 32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

DEFINITION—SEEK: desire; look for

THE KINGDOM OF GOD — that which is related to the reign of God; the purposes, plans and mission of God.

Luke 11:2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

QUOTE: When we actively believe that God owns it all, we have nothing to fear because we have nothing to lose. — Ron Blue

B. Set God-Given _____ to Work (33-34)

Luke 12:33-34 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. 34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

DEFINITION—GIVE ALMS: the act of contributing money or goods to the poor; especially as flowing from a disposition to kindness and compassion.

QUOTE: What you trade your money for signifies what you value.
— Ron Blue

QUESTION — How did the way you use your money this last week impact the Kingdom of God?

NOTE — Where we place our wealth determines the location of our heart.

Conclusion

QUOTE: God, our infinite rich Treasurer, remains with us. It is this which gives me peace. — George Muller



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