



Luke 12:13-15, *Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”*

DON'T BE A

Luke 12:16-19, *And he told them this parable: The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, “What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.” Then he said, “This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”*

- ✳ **The Ground...Produced A Good Crop** | This is another way of saying God produced it.
- ✳ **The Rich Fool sees his surplus problem** as a practical rather than a moral dilemma. It never occurs to him that he is already rich and doesn’t need any more wealth.
- ✳ **The real problem is not his surplus;** it is his greed to have more, regardless of the consequences to others.
- ✳ **The Rich Man’s words and plans reveal** he is a practical atheist. He never considers God.

Psalms 104:14, *He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate - bringing forth food from the earth.*

Psalms 24:1, *The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*

Psalms 14:1a, *The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”*

Luke 12:20, *But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?”*

- ✳ **This man has a bigger problem than maxed-out barns.** He is mortal.

Ecclesiastes 8:8a, *No man has power over the wind to contain it; so no one has power over the day of his death.*

Psalms 49:10b, *the foolish and the senseless alike perish and leave their wealth to others.*

Deuteronomy 8:17, *Beware lest you say in your heart, “My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.”*

Luke 12:21, *This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.*

Luke 12:21, *That's what happens when you fill your barn with Self and not with God. (The Message)*

- ✳ **The Rich Fool stored up the wrong kind of treasure** in the wrong place.

CHOOSE TRUST OVER _____

Luke 12:22-28, *Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!"*

- ✳ **The Implication** | God feeds the lowest of birds, and since you are more valuable to God than birds, God will also feed and care for you.
- ✳ **Grass Of The Field** | something inconsequential and short-lived, yet God grows it. How much more will God provide for those created in his image, and those for whom Christ died?
- ✳ **Jesus Warns Us** | the pursuit of economic security can prevent you from becoming a disciple who will follow Jesus all the way to the cross.

USE GENEROSITY TO _____

Luke 12:29-32, *And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.*

- ✳ **Jesus calls us to live in the confidence of God's reign** | to live in light of His Kingdom, which can free us of anxiety in this life.

Luke 12:33-34, *Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

- ✳ **Generosity flows from confidence in God's ability to provide for us.** Faith sees surplus as something to be shared with others, because the God Who supplies our surplus can also be trusted to provide for our future needs.
- ✳ **We can store up treasure in heaven** by being generous to people here on earth.

SOME PRACTICAL STEPS

- ✳ Pre- _____
- ✳ Get _____
- ✳ Be _____
- ✳ Stretch _____
- ✳ Take _____

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