

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"The Rich Fool"
Luke 12:13-21
Study-53

This Parable Of "The Rich Fool" Is Important For Two Reasons:

- 1. Jesus is speaking about a real person**
- 2. He is a successful person**

This Story Teaches Us The Failure of Success! Luke 16:15 for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.

Luke 9:51-19:27 The Rejection Of The Son Of Man:

Luke 12 - Hindrances To Holiness:

Verses 1-12 Be Careful Lest Satan Hinder You - The Fear Of Man:

Verses 13-34 Be Confident, God Will Not Fail You - Love Of Money:

Verses 35-59 Be Consistent In Preparing For Christ's Return:

Thought Of Our Passage: "Believers Trust God To Meet Their Needs Thus Being Liberated To Serve God With Single-Mindedness."

1. Verses 13-15 The Setting
2. Verses 16-19 The Story
3. Verse 20 The Supposition

1. Verses 13-15 The Setting

Luke 12:13 Someone in the crowd said to Him,

Context – Jesus left a heated luncheon and began to minister to His disciples in a crowd. **Luke 12:1** **Luke 12** Jesus' instruction takes place in one setting, Jesus is interrupted **Verse 13, 41**

"Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

The request was to settle a family quarrel.

(The younger wanting the older to sell out, so he could get his inheritance)

We need to note the context of this request!

Luke 12:8 (This man is not interested in eternal life but riches)

He is demanding Jesus to take action! Side with him!

Luke 12:14 But He said to him, "Man,

this word speaks that the man (person) was a stranger.

*There are many people that want Jesus **to solve their problems but not change their hearts.***

Jesus knew that this family feud over money was only a symptom of a greater problem, which was covetousness.

Matthew 13:22

Luke 12:15 A Warning: Then He said to them, (The Crowd)

"Beware, and be on your guard Jesus is saying look up! Pay attention! Be on the lookout."

Greed can be translated to **covetousness**, it means *"the lust to have more than one's fair share, a boundless grasping after more, a craving for more of what you have enough of already"*
The opposite of contentment!

The Tenth Commandment is Exodus 20:17

Proverbs 21:26; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5; 1 Timothy 6:9-10

for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions." That is the great error of a person in materialism

We think that an abundance of things is the key to a successful life. Jesus teaches the opposite in this parable. An abundance of things can make you a failure.

Luke 12:29-30

2. Verses 16-19 The Story

Luke 12:16 And He told them

Jesus is now speaking to the crowd and His disciples.

parable – means *"to cast alongside of"*

Jesus used parables to put before, or alongside of, what He was teaching. This was to expound a point.

"The land of a certain rich man was very productive. How did he make his money? He made it the most honest way that we would have considered.

Luke 12:17 The man looked at all the blessings that he had received. He did not think or thank God for all that he had received.

The Man Was Selfish: There are **11 personal pronouns** in his speech about himself. **"I" trouble, "I do" "My crops" "My barn" "My grain" "My goods."**

David said - 2 Samuel 7:18

The material blessings of life are either a mirror that we see ourselves or a window by which we see God.

Deuteronomy 6:10-12 Watch Out!

When we look at the blessings of life, do we find ourselves **inflating our ego's** or do we find ourselves **being humbled by all that God has done for us!**

Luke 12:18 "Then he said, 'This is what I will do:

Here, this man is speaking to himself and not speaking or seeking God. No prayer for direction; he just says what he will do.

The Man Was Materialistic: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

Luke 12:19 These are words of a starved soul. That after all the getting, he still did not have.

The Man Was Hedonistic: 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul,

Here is a man conversing with his own soul.

He is not including God, Pleasure sum total of man's life!

you have many goods laid up for many years to come;

This is based on the finite brain of a human.

**The only place in the Bible that retirement is spoken of.
Matthew 6:27**

take your ease, eat, drink and be merry."

This is what the self-centered person thinks of right away, enjoyment!

Nothing wrong with enjoyment: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Luke 12:15 Even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."

We need to look at life in the way of an investment:

We are not to focus on selfish enjoyment but on investing for the future.

Luke 12:33

Luke 12:20

He Is A Fool Not A Success: "But God said to him, 'You fool!

He was a fool because he left God out; he was a fool because he thought that material things bring peace!

Fool – *a person that lives life and makes decisions as if God does not exist.*

Luke 12:19

This is a false peace that is based on things.

Man Was A Servant Not A Master: (Not in control) This very night your soul is required of you;

Ecclesiastes 5:12

Man Was A Pauper Not A Rich Man: and now who will own what you have prepared?' Saving for the day that will not come!

3. Verse 20 The Supposition

Luke 12:21 "So is the man

Jesus says, "He is a fool! He has invested in the wrong account!"

Who lays up treasure for himself,

looking at the blessings of life as coming from ourselves.

and is not rich toward God."

Recognize that all we have is from the gracious hand of God.

We do not deserve it; we are not better for having it.

We need to invest it back in the Lord.

Application:

1. The Material Blessings Of Life Are Either A Mirror That We See Ourselves Or A Window By Which We See God:

2. People Think That An Abundance Of Things Is The Key To A Successful Life. Jesus Teaches The Opposite In This Parable That An Abundance Of Things Can Make You A Failure:

3. When We Look At The Blessings Of Life Do We Find Ourselves Inflating Our Ego's Or Do We Find Ourselves Being Humbled By All That God Has Done For Us?