

PARABLES: Truth Hidden In Plain Sight

“The Rich Fool”, Luke 12:1, 13-21

-Pastor Dan

Parable: a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.

The Parable of The Rich Fool

- BE ON GUARD ABOUT HYPOCRISY

Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, saying: “Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy...”

Luke 12:1

- BE ON GUARD ABOUT GREED

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

Luke 12:14-15

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Hebrews 13:5

Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.

Ecclesiastes 5:10

⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6:9-10

¹⁶And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ ¹⁸“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”” Luke 12:16-19

KEY: Not a sin to have wealth – what’s our attitude?

... if riches increase, set not your heart on them. Psalm 62:10

THE RICH FOOL DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO ACCUMULATING WEALTH
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?’

Luke 12:20

¹⁴Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

¹⁵Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will...” James 4:13-15

I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me.

Ecclesiastes 2:18

KEY: Devotion to wealth will never satisfy: “I just need a little more”.

²¹“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

Luke 12:13-21

THE PURPOSE OF YOUR WEALTH IS NOT TO HOARD - BUT SHARE.

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

1 Timothy 6:17-19