

Guarding Against Greed

Parables: Common Stories / Kingdom Lessons

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Introduction

Luke 12:13-21—The Parable of the Rich Fool

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

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He 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. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’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?’²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

I. Realize True Happiness Is Not Found In Possessions

Vs. 15

II. Recognize God Is The Source Of Your Great Success And Abundance

Vs. 16-17

III. Resist The Temptation To Focus Your Wealth Only On Yourself

Vs. 18-19

IV. Use God’s Resources For God’s Purposes

Vs. 20-21

Kingdom Lesson: Greed causes you to use your abundance only for yourself instead of God’s purposes.