

Jesus Wisdom from God - Gospels

[Luke 12:13-21](#)

“Wisdom: Being Rich Towards God” – October 18, 2020

Introduction

All over the gospels we find Jesus answering questions to turn our attention back to our hearts to help us turn and trust in Him. In this passage, Jesus warns us to guard our hearts against greed and covetousness. May we be a people who do not find our worth in what we own, but a people who are rich towards God.

Pray

Read [Luke 12:13-21](#) and then thank God for one or two things you see in these verses.

Sermon Outline

- I. Jesus warns against all covetousness. ([12:13-15](#))
- II. Man's solution is all about himself. ([12:16-19](#))
- III. All must face the Final Judgement of God ([12:20-21](#))

Read & Discuss

1) Read [12:13-15](#)

Jesus tells us to be on our guard from covetousness. Covetousness is an insatiable (an impossible to satisfy) desire. Covetousness is a desire for wealth and/or possessions. It draws our hearts away from God. Do you fear what life would be like without your wealth or possessions? Do you fear not having enough or always seem to need more? Take some time to think about why that is in light of Jesus' teaching here. The world tries to convince us the more we get, the more secure we are, but that could not be farther from the truth. Do you find yourself judging another brother or sister who has more than you? Is it easy for you to share what you do have with others? If so, these could be signs of greed, envy or covetousness. True life is not found in the abundance of things. It is found in knowing and trusting God who is the sustainer of all things.

Additional Reading: [Colossians 3:5](#), [1 Timothy 6:9-10](#), [Ephesians 2:1-5](#)

2) Read [12:16-19](#)

Re-read those verses. Notice many times do you see the rich man thinking of himself: *I, me, my*. He is completely focused on his own possessions, security, and comfort. How often do you find yourself focused on expanding your own possessions, security and comfort over stewarding what you have for the glory of God and good of others? Are you more likely to see the negative or see the blessing when you feel your comforts being threatened? Take a

moment to reflect on the blessings that God has *already* given you – then spend time *thanking* God for those blessings.

Is it possible that you are living outside of your means? There are so many things we have to be thankful for. If you are struggling to figure out how to better steward what you have, have you asked wise counsel? This was most likely the first mistake the rich man made in this parable: he didn't seek wise counsel. Instead, he confided in himself. This is actually one of the many great benefits of being committed to a local church with people and pastors who know and love each other. We are all in this together to help "consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" ([Heb. 10:24](#)) The other factor the rich man foolishly assumes is that he is in control of every circumstance in the universe. If we've learned anything this year, it's that we have no control over the times and the seasons of life. We should enjoy the good gifts of God, but those good gifts must not become our gods. Having a plan is a good thing, but leaving God on the sideline during your planning is a fools' errand.

Additional Reading: [Proverbs 18:1,11](#), [James 4:13-17](#) [Ecclesiastes 5:18-19](#)

3) Read [12:20-21](#)

God interrupts the fools planning and storing up riches with the reality that death comes to us all. The result of saving faith looks like living a life that is rich towards God. It is a life that is spent for God's glory. Take some time this week to reassess what you have, what you want, and where it's leading you. What are ways you can use those things for the glory of God?

Additional Reading: [Matthew 16:26](#), [Matthew 25:31-46](#), [Matthew 6:20](#)

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to James 4:11-17 "If the Lord wills"
