

Portraits of Christ from Luke Christ - condemnation of Greed

Luke 12:13-34

Christ was concerned with all mankind. He knew that greed and covetousness destroyed men so He spoke of it often. *Luke 6:20, 25; 9:25; Luke 12*

He was concerned about the heart - not the pocketbook.

I. The Problem **Luke 12:13-14**

Setting - large crowd (**Luke 12:1**). Teaching on Hypocrisy **1-11**
Unnamed man spoke up - asking him to settle an inheritance
Christ came as Savior not Judge - Later He will judge
Deeper problem - nothing would satisfy ***Greed is unquenchable***

II. The Principle **Luke 12:15**

A. Strong Warning

Beware - believe that danger exists

Danger of wealth - It chokes the Word of God - **Matthew 13:22**
- It creates snares and temptations - **1 Timothy 6:10**
-It gives false sense of security

Be on your guard - constant vigilance is needed

All kinds of greed - Money, possessions, power, time

Greed = Idolatry *Colossians 3:5b Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.*

B. Life does not consist of the abundance of one possessions

Who a person is cannot be confused with what he has!

III. The Parable **Luke 12:16-21**

A Rich man who was not rich enough

A. What he did right

Good crops = good farmer
Care of crops for preservation

B. What he did wrong

1. He failed to acknowledge all from God
2. He failed to understand the purpose of wealth
To serve God - by serving fellow men
3. He was selfish in his evaluation
11 personal pronouns - I, my
4. He saw security in his possessions
Eat, drink and be merry

Also used by those in despair *1 Corinthians 15:32*
5. He thought he would live long and did not prepare

IV. The Proclamation of Truth **Luke 12:22-34**

A. Do not worry

22-30

1. Dangers of worry

- a. It is destructive of life
- b. It is deceptive - false view of life
- c. It is debilitating - **Proverbs 22:13** - there is a lion

2. How not to worry

- a. Look at the birds
- b. Look at your abilities (or lack of them)
- c. Look at the flowers

3. Why not to worry

God knows what you really need

B. Seek God's Kingdom (how to be really rich)

31-34

1. Seek His Kingdom

Seek the spiritual benefits of His kingdom
Rather than the material goods of the world

2. Be satisfied with what we have

Jesus came to offer us abundant life -am I experiencing it?
No need to fear - God delights to give us the Kingdom
Philippians 4:12, 1 Timothy 6:6

3. Sell what you have to be able to give

Does this mean sell everything? No - **Acts 2**
But from time to time we should sacrifice

4. Set your hearts on heavenly riches **1 Timothy 6:17-19**

Do good, be rich in good deeds,
Be generous, willing to share

Questions we should ask ourselves

Do I wish I had the problem the farmer had? - too much?

Do I judge others by what they own?

Do I worry about material things?

Am I storing up my treasures on earth or in heaven?

International Dinner next Sunday

Set up helpers please come at 3:30 pm- bring food at 4 pm