

Luke 12:13-21

I. Understanding Avaritia: vs 13-15

Jim Elliott: He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose

Hattie's calico critters

Greed: an inordinate desire to possess more

Pleonexia: greedy desire to have more

***There Will Be Blood* is a 2007 Paul T. Anderson**

Daniel Plainview, a prospector who loots the land of its natural resources in silver and oil to fill his pockets and gargantuan ego, he showed us a man draining his humanity for power

His greed leads to insanity as well as violence you feel as drained by the end of film as the land is of its oil.

Greed in our modern age is now called enterprise

Christ's warning against materialism

Mt 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Mammon is wealth personified and it makes a horrible master

Vs 15 Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.

Either we will transform the material into the image of the spiritual, or the material will transform us into its own image

Those who serve mammon begin to look like their God. They become materialized! The light dies out of their eyes. Living souls become only living flesh

Pr 1:19 So *are* the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; It takes away the life of its owners.

Inner deadness is the result of making acquisition our God

The essence of life is not found in our many possessions and if controlled by the things we possess life itself will feel illusive

The natural instinct of a man who has been redeemed by Christ through the gospel of grace is no longer self-preservation but self-sacrifice. The reception of the gift of grace should be evidenced in the gracious giving of our lives.

II. Understanding The Parable of the Rich Fool: vs 15-21

1. He never saw beyond Himself

Why because he was asking the wrong question:
How much can I keep for myself?

Vs 17-18 My barns my crops and my goods such aggressive pronouns

He was aggressively self concerned keeping rather than giving, hoarding rather helping, protecting his lot and losing His soul

Vs 19 "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.

Can you be self-serving and have Jesus?

Mr 10:21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me."

1Co 6:20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Which means you are no longer your own

Everything is His

1 Chron 29:11-14 Yours, O LORD, *is* the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all *that is* in heaven and in earth *is Yours*; Yours *is* the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor *come* from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand *is* power and might; In Your hand *it is* to make great And to give strength to all. "Now therefore, our God, We thank You And praise Your glorious name. But who *am* I, and who *are* my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things *come* from You, And of Your own we have given You.

Everything you have, you have been entrusted with by God to steward for Him

The right question is how much of God's money can I keep

We Need a Generous eye!

Do you have trouble seeing beyond yourself?

Mt 6:22 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.

Everything I needlessly spend for myself is taken from some other persons need

You cannot serve God and Mammon but you can serve God with mammon

2. He never saw beyond this World

20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

What I spent I had what I saved I lost what I gave I kept

Wealth will always be lost either it leaves us while we live or we leave it when we die Randy Alcorn

We will either use Mammon to serve the Kingdom of God or we will serve mammon as our God

We need an eternal perspective

Matt 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The temporal just simply does not last

Streamline your life for kingdom purposes

I will place no value on anything that I have or possess except in relation to the kingdom of Christ

If it furthers the kingdom, it has value- it can stay. If it is useless to that kingdom, it is valueless- it must be made useful, or go.

Closing: How can we not be rich toward God?

If we understand the Gospel generosity will be

1. Natural: Acts 2:44-46 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their

possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

2. Sacrificial: Ro 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your* reasonable service.

3. Joyfull: 2Co 9:7 *So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.*

5 steps that will bring transformation in our stewardship

- 1. Settle it as something fixed: God is Owner I am owner. I own nothing everything I have is a trust**
- 2. As an acknowledgement of that ownership I will set aside a tenth of all I earn. Then I will give out of the nine-tenths as He guides me**
- 3. I will keep for myself enough to make me more mentally, physically, and spiritually fit for the purposes of the kingdom of God**
- 4. I realize that in giving I am only investing:**

Wesley “Make all you can save all you can give all you can”

5. Once and for all I will put at God’s disposal my talents and my time

**Give yourself away it is the key to true happiness
throw off the shackles of greed and materialism
spend yourself for the kingdom**