





Stewardship of Money

LUKE 12

Jesus talked about Money

- ▶ Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables were concerned with how to handle money and possessions.
- ▶ In the Gospels, an amazing one out of ten verses (288 in all) deal directly with the subject of money.
- ▶ The Bible offers 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but more than 2,000 verses on money and possessions.
- ▶ (Howard L. Dayton, Jr., Leadership, Vol. 2, no. 2)

Fiduciary

- ▶ Ex. 19:5 “ Now then, if you will indeed obey *My* voice and keep *My* covenant, then you shall be **My own possession** among all the peoples, for all the earth **is Mine**;
- ▶ Job 41:11 ““Who has given to Me that I should repay *him*? *Whatever* is under the whole heaven **is Mine.**”
- ▶ “A **fiduciary duty** is the highest standard of care. The person who has a **fiduciary duty** is called the **fiduciary**, and the person to whom he owes the **duty**, is typically referred to as the principal or the beneficiary.”

The Rich Farmer

LUKE 12

Luke 12:13 - 15

- ▶ “Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."
- ▶ 12:14 Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?"
- ▶ 12:15 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."

Blunders of the Rich Farmer

- ▶ **Assumed he was the owner**

- ▶ (Psalm 50:12) “For the world is Mine, and all it contains.”

- ▶ **Failed to give thanks**

- ▶ Acts 14:17 “He did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”

- ▶ “But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

- ▶ “For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Timothy 6:9 – 10)

Blunders of the Rich Farmer

- ▶ **Wrong thinking regarding what to do with blessings.**
 - ▶ Was not rich toward God
- ▶ Thought his barns contained **all he needed.**
 - ▶ “Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.” Augustine of Hippo, Confessions

Blunders of the Rich Farmer

- ▶ Finally, our “successful” farmer forgot about **time and death**.
- ▶ (Eccl. 2:18 – 19) “Thus I hated all the fruit of my labor for which I had labored under the sun, for I must **leave it to the man who will come after me**. And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet **he will have control** over all the fruit of my labor for which I have labored by acting wisely under the sun. This too is vanity.”

Blunders of the Rich Farmer

- ▶ Finally, our “successful” farmer forgot about **time and death**.
 - ▶ “The evidence of our mortality and life’s uncertainty is not just compelling, it is overwhelming.” (Earnhart)
 - ▶ The only thing that will survive death is a secure relationship with God.

What will God say to me?

- ▶ Will God say of you or me, “You fool! This very night your soul is required of you, and now who will own what you have prepared?” (Luke 12:20)
- ▶ “What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul?” (Mark 8:36)



