



Today's Message

Date: April 11, 2021
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***The Real Value of Money***

Text: Luke 12:13–21 (ESV)

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’” ¹⁸ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Introduction: A man in the crowd that followed Jesus spoke up, asking Jesus to arbitrate a family dispute. Jesus refused to get involved except to warn the crowd, illustrate truth with a parable, and apply the point to everyone. We will follow the story to lay hold of the truth Jesus taught that day. May his powerful word transform our hearts.

I. Jesus refused to arbitrate a dispute over money. 13-14

- A. Jesus would not act as judge (yet) . . .
- B. because his concerns lay elsewhere.

II. Jesus warned against covetousness. 15

- A. Covetousness is a universal sin problem.
- B. Covetousness requires constant vigilance.
- C. Covetousness displays a twisted worldview.

III. Jesus illustrated his point with a story about a rich fool. 16-20

- A. The fool lived as if there is no God; therefore, he was: 16-19
 - 1. ungrateful,
 - 2. selfish,
 - 3. arrogant,
 - 4. self-indulgent,
 - 5. and presumptuous.
- B. But God called him to give an account. 20

IV. Jesus applied the point to every hearer (the “take-home truth”). 21

- A. Do not be a fool who lives for self . . .
- B. But be wise; be “all in” for God.