

“The Secrets of the Kingdom of God”: the Parables of Jesus in Luke Luke 12:13–21: The Parable of the Rich Fool

The Real Problem (Luke 12:13–15)

“You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.” (Exodus 20:17)

The Rich Fool (Luke 12:15–21)

“And he thought to himself, ‘What shall **I** do, for **I** have nowhere to store **my** crops?’ 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. And **I** will say to **my** soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’”
(Luke 12:17–19)

Be on Guard

1. We have to believe what the Bible says about the dangers of covetousness.
2. We have to look for covetousness in our lives and confess it to the Lord.
3. We have to trust God.
4. We have to invest in things with eternal value.
5. We have to give.

“‘Take heed and beware of covetousness.’—‘Take heed and beware of covetousness.’—‘Take heed and beware of covetousness.’ And what and if I should say nothing else?” (Hugh Latimer)

“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.” (1 Timothy 6:10)

“What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.”
(James 4:1–2)

“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’” (Hebrews 13:5)

“He did not realize that the bellies of the poor are much safer storerooms than his barns.” (Augustine)

“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.” (Matthew 6:19–21)

“Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.” (Philippians 4:17)

“Who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross”
(Philippians 2:6–8)

