

Kingdom Living
November 16th & 17th, 2013

Luke 12:13-34

“There can be no doubt that this possessive clinging to things is one of the most harmful habits in the [Christian] life. Because it is so natural, it is rarely recognized for the evil that it is. But its outworkings are tragic.” - A. W. Tozer¹

Jesus’ teaching to His disciples is interrupted by a man wanting an inheritance. *Luke 12:13*

- ❖ Jesus used this occasion to bring God’s truth and prospective concerning the trap of covetousness and the new way of living in God’s Kingdom!

Covetous: (Greek – *epithumeo*) “to fix the desire upon...”²

- ❖ Jesus draws a distinction between a Worldly perspective on life and a Kingdom perspective on life!

I. Worldly Perspective incorporates:

- ❖ Fixation on worldly gain *Luke 12:13-15*

1 Timothy 6:9-10 “But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”

“Despite a struggling economy — or perhaps because of it — lottery ticket sales have surged across the USA. Financial records for 41 state lotteries that end their fiscal year in June [2011] show 28 had higher sales than the year before. Seventeen of those states set all-time sales records. ... Yet that's just what a 2004 Cornell University study found. ‘We see that lottery sales go up as the economy gets bad ...’”³

- ❖ Self-serving attitude *Luke 12:16-18,21*

Nebuchadnezzar exemplified self-centeredness *Daniel 4:28-30*

- ❖ False sense of security *Luke 12:19-20*

1 Timothy 6:17 “As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.”

Psalms 118:8-9 “It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.”

- ❖ Anxiety *Luke 12:22*

Anxiety: (Greek – *merimna*) “to draw in different directions, distract...”²

Stress: “to draw tight”

- ❖ Fear *Luke 12:32*

Fear: (Greek – *phobos*) “first has the meaning of ‘flight,’ that which is caused by being scared; ...”²

1 John 4:18 “There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. ...”

II. Kingdom Perspective incorporates:

- ❖ Fixing our eyes on God

"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Luke 12:32

- ❖ Freedom to serve others

"Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. ..." Luke 12:33

- ❖ Security in God

"But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith!" Luke 12:28

- ❖ Peace in our Father's care

"For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them." Luke 12:30

- ❖ Direction for our lives

"Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Luke 12:31,33-34

Endnotes:

¹ "Christian Quotes On Tithing, Finances, Money and Stewardship." *Daily Christian Quotes*. ©2013 I Lift My Eyes Web Ministries. Web. <<http://dailychristianquote.com/dcqmoney.html>>.

² Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.

³ Matheny, Keith. "Lottery Ticket Sales Increase Across Country." *www.usatoday.com*. USA Today, 1 Sep 2011. Web.

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