

Sunday Message Meditation

11/02/2014

Text: **Luke 12:13-21**

Message Mediation:

1. If we were awarded 10 million dollars, we would do with it what we most desired. How would our relationship with God influence our attitude and action with that kind of surplus money?
 - a. Excess money becomes a mirror revealing what we most value.
 - b. Where our heart is, is where our money travels. Where your money goes, is where our heart is at.
2. In Luke 12:13-21, Jesus refuses to arbitrate the inheritance dispute between two brothers, but He does have counsel to give:
 - a. Be on your guard against covetousness. Your life doesn't consist in the abundance of your possessions.
 - b. Be concerned about your life. Life is found in knowing God (John 17:3).
 - c. Be rich toward God.
3. It's not a bad thing to have an "abundant harvest," a successful business, an increase in profits, or receive a generous inheritance.

It's not wrong to save for the future with surplus income. It's wise to do so.
It's a good thing to enjoy the good things that God richly provides for our enjoyment.
The parable found in Luke 12 isn't necessarily about prosperity or provisions for the future. The parable is about being rich toward God – and not forfeiting your soul by being a practical atheist and building your life upon money and possessions.

Questions for extended reflection:

1. There are fierce competitors for God's supremacy. The fight to keep God uppermost in our hearts isn't because of His inferior value that we must shore up, but because of other things of lesser value that fight to take His place in our hearts. While the parable of this passage is about inheritances, money and possessions, what are some other things that lie to us and fight to have God's place? (What says to you "without me you don't have life"?)
2. Treasuring God, Himself, precedes being rich toward Him with the resources we have been given. How do you practically fight the good fight of the faith and treasure God the most? What keeps Him in His proper place in your heart, and is effective in defeating the lies of lesser values?
3. If you were naked, starving, friendless, imprisoned, and awaiting execution (having lost all your possessions) – how would you know that God is still for you? How would you be a "conqueror" in that context? (See Romans 8:31-38).

What would make you "joyfully accept the plundering of your property"? (See Hebrews 10:34)