

The Parable of the Rich Fool

Luke 12:13-34

by Don Falkos

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Jesus said, "Don't be greedy. Life doesn't depend on owning lots of stuff.

There was once a rich man whose farmland produced a bumper crop. He said to himself, "What am I going to do? My barns aren't big enough to hold all this grain. I know, I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. I'll store up everything I have and say to myself, 'Self, you're all set. You have enough here for years to come. Relax. Eat, drink, and have a good time.' "

But God said, "You fool. This very night you are going to die. Then who will get all this stuff you've prepared for yourself?"

"That's how it will be for all those who hoard riches for themselves and are not rich in relation to God.

"Don't worry about what you're going to eat or what you're going to wear. There's more to life than food and clothing. Look at the birds. They don't work for a living, yet God feeds them. Look at the flowers. They don't work for a living. Yet not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed as well as they are.

"Can you add a single hour to your life by worrying? Can you make yourself a single inch taller by worrying? So why worry at all? God knows you need to eat and drink. God knows you need clothing to wear. God knows all your needs. Don't worry about such things. Put the kingdom of God first in your life, and all your needs will be supplied as a matter of course. Don't be afraid of missing out. God wants to give you the very kingdom itself."