

Study Guide for October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Text: Luke 12:13-21. Rich Fool or Wise Investor?

1. Who have you known (or known about) who spent inordinate amounts of time and energy storing up resources but was then unable to enjoy it because of some unforeseen turn of circumstances? Describe.
2. The Request: Rabbis were frequently consulted to render legal or ethical decisions. Note Jesus was called **teacher** by the man in the crowd.
  - A. Why do you think Jesus refused to directly answer the request for a settlement in the dispute?
  - B. How does Jesus turn the request into a teaching opportunity for the crowd (and us)?
  - C. Complete the sentence, "Jesus is more concerned with \_\_\_\_\_ than \_\_\_\_\_."
3. The Issue: GREED.
  - A. Write a definition of GREED:
  - B. Complete the sentence, According to Jesus, GREED has the potential to deceive a person by . . .
  - C. What is taught about GREED in the following passages?
    - 1). Job 31:24-28
    - 2). Matt. 6:19
    - 3). Eph. 5:3-5
    - 4). Col. 3:5
  - D. How and when are you most susceptible to GREED?
4. The Reasoning:
  - A. What does the man building the bigger barns assume?
  - B. How would such a man be described in today's economy?
  - C. Who will get what the rich man stored? (see Eccles. 2:18-19)
  - D. What does God call the man? Why?
5. The Lesson and Application:

In Matt. 6:20-21 Jesus says, "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Reflect on these words as an application to the story of the rich fool and then answer...

  - A. Are you spending too much energy storing up money and things **for yourself**?
  - A. Where is your treasure? If your life were demanded from you this very night would God call you a wise person or a fool? What changes should you make even today?