

Luke 12:13-21 **Coveted Inheritance**

13 Then one from the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." 14 But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?"

Beware of Covetousness

15 And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

Illustration – Retiring rich man at door of death

16 Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. 17 And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' 18 So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.' " 20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

Conclusion

21 So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Jesus is the final Judge between man and God in determining entry into the Kingdom of God.
- ✧ He does not want to be a judge or arbitrator between brothers in the division of an inheritance here.
- ✧ The one asking was obviously not the administrator of the will.

Beware of Covetousness

- ✚ Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses. [Luke 12:15]
- ✧ This was the last of the Ten Commandments given at Mount Sinai when God gave His righteous Laws to Israel. [Exodus 20:17]
- ✧ Life is far more important than things you possess.
- ✧ This goes right along with the text that states that "The love of money is the root of all evil." [1 Timothy 6:9-10]
- ✧ It is one of the defilements and wicked traits warned against in Scripture. [Mark 7:22, Romans 1:29, 7:7-12, 13:9, 1 Corinthians 5:11, 6:9-10, Ephesians 5:3-5, Colossians 3:5, Hebrews 13:5, James 4:1-2, 2 Peter 2:1-3]

Illustration – Retiring rich man at door of death

- ✚ This is the story of a real rich individual who had an abundant harvest and was planning his retirement.
- ✚ God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

Conclusion

- ✚ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
- ✧ Jesus draws a clear conclusion as the matter relates to the relationship between the individual and God.