

THE GREEDY FOOL—THE GENEROUS WIDOW

Luke 12:13-21, Luke 21:1-4

Pastor Jeff Gilmore

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4 Truths that help us defeat sin:

- God is Great—so we don't have to be in control
- God is Glorious—so we don't have to fear others
- God is Good—so we don't have to look elsewhere
- God is Gracious—so we don't have to prove ourselves

From Tim Chester's You Can Change

God Wants 1st Place in Your Life

I. THE GREEDY FOOL (Luke 12:13-21)

Someone in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." But He said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" And He said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." ' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." Luke 12:13-21

A. The Setting

B. The Story

1st Quality:

2nd Quality:

3rd Quality:

C. The Scene

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 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 12:32-34

II. THE GENEROUS WIDOW (Luke 21:1-4)

Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and He saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And He said, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on." Luke 21:1-4

- Generosity has nothing to do with how much you give; rather, has everything to do with how much you keep.
- Generosity thinks: Give, Save, Live; Greed thinks: Work, Spend, Save

A. Four Dangers in Giving.

- 1) The danger of _____.
- 2) The danger of _____.
- 3) The danger of _____.
- 4) The danger of _____.

B. How Should We Give?

- 1) Give _____.
- 2) Give _____.

C. What Should We Give To?

- 1) To support your family. I Tim. 5:8, Prov. 21:20, 30:25-28
- 2) To the Local and Universal Church (parachurch and missions). Acts 2:45, 4:35; 2 Cor. 8-9
- 3) To those in need the Lord puts in your path. I Jn 3:16,17; Luke 10:33.
- 4) To the poor.

D. How Should I Respond?

- 1) Become poor.
- 2) Grow in contentment. Phil 4:11, I Tim. 6:6, 8
- 3) Be lovingly compassionate. I Jn 4:7
- 4) Develop radical generosity.