

Sermon Series: Where Your Treasure Is

Sermon Title: A Theology of Stewardship

Text: Luke 12:13-34

I. A Theology of Stewardship according to Luke 12:13-34

¹³Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴“Friend,” he said to him, “who appointed me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵He then told them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because one’s life is not in the abundance of his possessions.”

¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “A rich man’s land was very productive. ¹⁷He thought to himself, ‘What should I do, since I don’t have anywhere to store my crops? ¹⁸I will do this,’ he said. ‘I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones and store all my grain and my goods there. ¹⁹Then I’ll say to myself, “You have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy; eat, drink, and enjoy yourself.”’

²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is demanded of you. And the things you have prepared—whose will they be?’

²¹“That’s how it is with the one who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

- To the Crowd Jesus addressed the issue of GREED as it relates to wealth and possessions

²²Then he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, don’t worry about your life, what you will eat; or about the body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: ...²⁷“Consider how the wildflowers grow...

²⁹Don’t strive for what you should eat and what you should drink, and don’t be anxious. ³⁰For the Gentile world eagerly seeks all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹“But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you. ³²Don’t be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Make money-bags for yourselves that won’t grow old, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- To His disciples he addressed the issue of WORRY as it relates to wealth and possessions.

The Theological Framework of Stewardship

1. EVERYTHING belongs to the Lord.
2. EVERYONE is a steward. Either a good or bad one.
3. As Stewards we will either build OUR kingdom or seek HIS Kingdom.
4. Our Father DELIGHTS to give us HIS Kingdom.

- II. Old Testament picture of whole treasure stewardship
- **TITHE**
 - Leviticus 27:30. 30 *“Every tenth of the land’s produce, grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.*
 - **MARGIN**
 - Leviticus 19:9–10 9 *“When you reap the harvest of your land, you are not to reap to the very edge of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10 Do not strip your vineyard bare or gather its fallen grapes. Leave them for the poor and the resident alien; I am the LORD your God.*
 - Leviticus 23:22 22 *When you reap the harvest of your land, you are not to reap all the way to the edge of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and the resident alien; I am the LORD your God.”*
 - **REMAINDER**
 - Proverbs 3:9 9 *Honor the LORD with your possessions and with the first produce of your entire harvest.*
- III. What part of the equation has your heart?
- IV. Demonstrating the heart of Christ will always come with cost.

Pastor’s Challenge:

1. If your personal finances are out of control decide now that next time we offer a Biblical Finance Class that you’ll sign up and attend.
2. Take a \$1 bill and put it on your fridge to remind you that EVERY dollar you receive is intended to demonstrate the Heart of Christ.