



# Then What?

Luke 12:13-21

**In this passage, Jesus is speaking to people who are tempted to throw their life away on stuff that really isn't that important.**

**It's about being so focused on getting something or getting somewhere that has no guarantees, but missing the importance of the moment.**



# I. A Modern Day Explanation

**1. God does not forbid possessing material things – even having wealth.**

***... but remember that the Lord your God gives you the power to gain wealth, in order to confirm His covenant He swore to your fathers, as it is today.***

***Deuteronomy 8:18 HCSB***

- **God doesn't forbid having it – God forbids loving it.**
- **Those who love money fall under the curse of diminishing returns.**

***Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness! The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what good is wealth – except perhaps to watch it slip through your fingers.***

***Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 NLT***

**2. Jesus didn't address His questioner's demand. He read his heart and explained that greed is foolish .**

- The real meaning, purpose and joy of life are not found in the pursuit or even the accumulation of stuff.**



## II. A Modern Day Application

**1. Jesus' story describes a man who was successful in business.**

**2. His accumulations were honorable and God-granted.**

**3. The problem with this man's retirement package was not what it included but how he viewed it and what he threw away to get it.**

- The personal pronoun "my" is used four times in his statements. "I" is used eight.**

**4. Verse 17 says, “He thought to himself....” Some translations read, “He reasoned within himself ....”**

- **That's dangerous; he should have been asking what God thought of it all.**
- **There is a truth that we must come to accept: *Things are not going to settle down!***

**5. The second truth is this: *More will never be enough.* (verse 18)**

- **Contentment is an attitude – a learned skill.**
- **He forgot the source of his things. Stewardship.**

**6. It's not sinful or even bad to be successful in business or work to achieve personal goals, but when you've accumulated or done all that you can, you have to ask this fundamental two-word question:**  
*Then what?*

**7. Do our plans reflect God's priorities?**

## **8. Lay up treasure in heaven. How so?**

- **Be prepared for death, spiritually speaking.**
- **Make sure your spouse is first place in your life after God.**

- **Make time for your children and grandchildren.**
- **Put the work of God above all of the stuff you think you want.**
- **Control your calendar, instead of it controlling you.**

**You can't change time, and you can't recover the opportunities lost, but you can choose to change from today forward. Don't miss the priorities of today working so hard to get to a tomorrow that is not guaranteed.**

**It's not too late to make today  
count.**

