

THE MATERIALISM THAT STOLE CHRISTMAS

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Pastor Augie Iadicicco



Notes:

It is easy to get so focused on the gifts of Christmas that we forget about the Gift of Christmas! Materialism is rampant not only during the holidays, but in our society, all year long. In Luke 12, Jesus tells a parable that reminds us that the earthly things we store up for ourselves are not nearly as important as the spiritual inheritance that is ours in Christ.

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” **14** Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” **15** Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” **16** And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. **17** He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ **18** “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. **19** And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”” **20** “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ **21** “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.” - Luke 12:13-21

2 Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes.

3 Your gold and silver are corroded. - James 5:2-3

Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath. - Proverbs 11:4

My Next Step(s):

- I will be on guard against all kinds of greed in my life.
- I will not put my trust in the abundance of my possessions.
- I will live without worry, not because of my perfect plans, but my perfect God.
- I will live beyond myself—giving generously and being rich toward God.
- I will live for Christ—finding my abundance in Him.

Memory Verse: Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”
- Luke 12:15

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(This message uses materials provided The Preaching Project, San Antonio, TX.)