

Welcome.

***We are glad that you
have come to
worship with us.***



Luke 12:20

Passing the Inheritance



Things left behind

1 Timothy 6:7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

Psalm 49:10 For all can see that the wise die, that the foolish and the senseless also perish, **leaving their wealth to others.**

- ▶ Can't take anything with you (some think so).
- ▶ Who will inherit your things?
- ▶ It's a question Jesus asked in response...

Luke 12:16-21 NIV

And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ “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. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.” ’ “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?**’ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”



Whose shall those things be?

John 12:20 NLT “But God said to him, ‘You fool! You will die this very night. **Then who will get everything you worked for?**’

John 12:20 KJV But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then **whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?**

► **Basically, who is getting the inheritance?**



The Inheritance on Arlington Road.



Whose shall those things be?

John 12:20 KJV But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then **whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?**

- ▶ Mr. and Mrs. Jones
- ▶ Mr. and Mrs. Jones had 2 sons...
- ▶ I'm sure they thought their sons would inherit their belongings.



Whose shall those things be?

John 12:20 KJV But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then **whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?**

- ▶ Mrs. Jones was still living and in need of care.
- ▶ The nursing home will likely get a significant portion of the money.
- ▶ What about the rest?



Where moth and rust destroy

Matthew 6:19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, **where moth and rust destroy** and where thieves break in and steal;

- ▶ **About my job...what we do.**
- ▶ **Matt and I were there to fixing the “rust”.**
- ▶ **Building materials break down over time. Heat, cold, wind & water cause damages.**



Where thieves break in & steal

Matthew 6:19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and **where thieves break in and steal**;

- ▶ **Working with the estate company...**
- ▶ **The estate company employees didn't break in... but they did steal.**
- ▶ **“What's in those black garbage bags?”**



What's the real value of things?

- ▶ **It's worth what someone is willing to pay for it!**

Mark 8:36-37 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

- ▶ **The estate company put a value on things...**
- ▶ **Plaques, trophies, letters of achievement, medals, are worthless to the estate company. These were set aside in case a family member wanted them.**
- ▶ **But, food & toiletries were taken by employees.**



Other things were taken too...

- ▶ Louisville Slugger bat cane... Everything marked originally at 1/3 of the estimated value on Thursday, the first day of sale. (\$75 item = \$25)
- ▶ 25% off that on Friday. (\$75 = \$18)
- ▶ 50% off that on Saturday. (\$75 = \$9)
- ▶ 75% off that on Sunday (will accept \$0.01.)
- ▶ The estate company gets 35-50% of profit!
- ▶ But the bat cane never made it to the sale.



The vanishing inheritance

- ▶ **Riches can disappear at any time.**

Proverbs 23:5 Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

- ▶ **Legal costs, repairs, real estate costs, nursing home costs, estate sale costs, theft, not much left, then that's divided by 2 sons.**
- ▶ **But the 2 sons didn't want it!**



Here today, gone tomorrow

- ▶ Many put false confidence in riches.

Proverbs 18:10 The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. 11 The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; **they imagine it a wall too high to scale.**

- ▶ Those who trust in their wealth are pretending a high wall stands between them (or their loved ones) and misfortune.
- ▶ Solomon's inheritance to Rehoboam (1 kings 12)

Luke 12:16-21 NIV

And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ “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. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.” ’ “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?**’ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”



The problem with riches...

► Riches don't last.

1 John 2:17 **And the world is passing away**, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

► Riches cannot save.

Proverbs 11:4 **Riches do not profit in the day of wrath**, But righteousness delivers from death.



The desires of your heart

► And back to Matthew 6...

Matthew 6:19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

► **New Living Translation – “wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also.”**



Considered and controlled

► Who/what controls your life?

Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.

- A blessing to some is a trap to others.
- Money, wealth, riches, can be like fire...
- A helpful tool or a devastating force.



Riches can keep us from Christ

► **It did the rich young ruler (Luke 18:22).**

Luke 18:22 So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” 23 But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

► **The rich young ruler did not possess his wealth, his wealth possessed him.**



Conclusion

- ▶ **Bought & sold? Many things we will own for a time (or inherit) and then sell.**
- ▶ **Or Buy & Hold?**

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.

- ▶ **God's Word is treasure, an eternal investment that must never be sold.**



Conclusion

- ▶ **There is an inheritance for us. It has been prepared by our Father.**
- ▶ **Bible Puzzle answer is from 1 Peter 1:3, 4**

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,