

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

August 1, 2016

POSSESIONS

LUKE 12:13-21 NKJV – (13) Then one from the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." (14) But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?" (15) And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." (16) Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. (17) And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' (18) So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. (19) And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" (20) But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' (21) "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God".

Ann Landers had an interesting letter in her column. It was from a girl who was writing about her uncle and aunt. She said, "My uncle was the tightest man I've ever known. All his life, every time he got paid he took \$20 out of his paycheck & put it under his mattress. Then he got sick and was about to die. As he was dying, he said to his wife, "I want you to promise me one thing." "Promise what?" she asked. "I want you to promise me that when I'm dead you'll take my money from under the mattress and put it in my casket so that I can take it all with me." The girl's letter went on with the story. "He died and his wife kept her promise. She went in and got all that money the day he died and went to the bank and deposited it, and wrote out a check and put it in his casket."

This story is a prime example of how NOT to live your life. While the young lady's uncle may have been an excellent businessman in the natural, he was a complete failure in God's eye, as well as spiritually foolish. Unlike the prodigal son who wastefully spent all his money, this man just hoarded his wealth for naught! He had much potential, but ruined it. His is the story of tragedy and a wasted life. Just as the prodigal son, God saw this behavior as the behavior of a fool. His self-indulgent plans for himself did not materialize. His would end abruptly and prematurely, oblivious to what a fool he was. He stored things up for himself but was not rich towards God, unbeknownst on the road to hell, but thinking his future would be great.

In actuality, his material treasures would soon belong to someone else by not make adequate preparations for what was ahead. He entered eternity unprepared. His life exemplifies a fool. (Elsewhere a foolish builder is contrasted to a wise builder, for the former merely hears God's word, but does not put it into practice - **MATTHEW 7:24-27**).

SCRIPTURE READING
PROVERBS 11:28

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“To be content with little is difficult; to be content with much, impossible.”