

SOHL
WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS



"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"

Are you storing up the wrong things?

May 8, 2017

LUKE 12:16-21 (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."

The rich man in Jesus' story died before he could begin to use what was stored in his large barns. Planning for retirement - preparing for life before death is wise, but neglecting life after death is disastrous! If you accumulate wealth only to enrich yourself, with no concern for helping others, you will enter eternity empty.

Why do we save money? Retirement? For expensive cars or toys? For security? Jesus challenges us to think beyond earthly goals and to use what we have been given for God's Kingdom. Faith, service, and obedience are the ways to become rich in God.

Don't plan without God. God seems to have a delightful way of upsetting the plans we have made, when we have not taken Him into account. We get ourselves into circumstances that were not chosen by God, and suddenly we realize that we have been making our plans without Him - that we have not even considered Him to as a vital, living factor in the planning of our lives. Yet, the only thing that will keep us from even the possibility of worrying is to bring in God as the greatest factor in all of our planning.

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 6:33

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Preparing for life before death is wise, but neglecting life after death is disastrous!