

¹³Someone in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And He said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And He told them a parable, saying,

-.001.tiff

“The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul,

-.002.tiff

“Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

—Luke 12:13-21 ESV

-.003.tiff

A Sermon in a Sentence

-.004.tiff

“Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” —Luke 12:15 ESV

-.005.tiff

A Story and With Grave Consequence

-.006.tiff

In all toil there is profit,
but mere talk tends only to poverty.
—Proverbs 14:23 ESV

-.007.tiff

⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ... ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect,

-.008.tiff

but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. —Philippians 3:7-8, 12-14 ESV

-.009.tiff

A Summary That Brings Security (and Satisfaction)

-.010.tiff

A rich man's wealth is his strong city,
and like a high wall in his imagination.
—Proverbs 18:11 ESV

Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.
—Psalm 127:1 ESV

-.011.tiff

²²And He said to His disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing." —Luke 12:22-23 ESV

-.012.tiff

²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith!

-.013.tiff

²⁹And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³²Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

-.014.tiff

³³Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. —Luke 12:27-34 ^{ESV}

-.015.tiff

A Summary That Brings Security (and Satisfaction)

- Repent of the idolatrous practice of covetousness.

-.016.tiff

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming.

—Colossians 3:5-6 ^{ESV}

-.017.tiff

A Summary That Brings Security (and Satisfaction)

- Rejoice in what God has given you.

-.018.tiff

“Faith in Jesus Christ enriches us by giving us the blessings of forgiveness, peace, holiness and heaven, and good works, wrought as the outcome of gratitude for these blessings, enrich us with present happiness and future reward. These are things which the world cannot give or take away. These are things which are the possessions, of our soul, and of which death cannot deprive us.” —William Taylor

-.019.tiff

A Summary That Brings Security (and Satisfaction)

- Return to God what belongs to God.

-.020.tiff

⁹Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
¹⁰then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

—Proverbs 3:9-10 ESV

-.021.tiff

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

—1 Timothy 6:17 ESV

-.022.tiff

A Summary That Brings Security (and Satisfaction)

- Risk a “trade-off” of future return through present restraint.

-.023.tiff

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. —Colossians 3:1-4 ESV

-.024.tiff