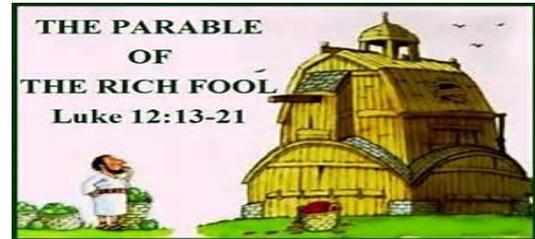


The Answerer

Answering children's questions

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The Rich Fool

(There are many of them)

Luke 12:13-21

Seems that a rich man can be a fool!

He should be very happy because he has plenty of money, so no worries.

Not so with Jesus thinking and saying.

Is lots of money the way to happiness? Jesus says “No.”

Question for you: “Are the rich people you know happy?”

Answer: A rich man can be very happy...but money is not his ‘god’. If God comes first and money second - that is a wise person. But a person who makes money their ‘god’ then God comes second, (or third) - he is a fool in Jesus’ thinking.

In the story a farmer had very bountiful crops with much grain (food) from his crops.

“What to do?” the farmer asks himself.

“I know. I’ll tear down my old and small grain silos (storage bins) and build bigger ones, then I can sit back and ‘Take it easy’ and have lots of fun, for I am rich with lots of grain to make me rich for years.”

**Jesus said: “But God said to him, fool!
Tonight you die. Then who will get it all?”**



Jesus added to God’s words: “Yes, every man is a fool who gets rich on earth, but not in heaven.” Having riches is almost a curse - you worry about losing it, so many people put God in second place ... and they then worry about who will get their money when they die.

Helping others - and making the world a better place is the way Jesus wants us to think and act. (Luke 12:13-21 TLB) *That does not mean giving away all you own just to be poor.*

See page 2 for a famous person as a more recent example!

While thinking on The Rich Fool -

I remembered a book I read about the man who invented much of the earth moving machinery that we take as normal today.

MOVER OF MEN AND MOUNTAINS by Richard Le Tourneau

He helped to the Allies win World War Two (WW 11).



Here is some of his life story.

He started many years before to develop earth moving machinery and in the war Japanese pilots were amazed to find that the American airfields they had bombed and 'destroyed' yesterday, were back in service today!?!?!

Mr Richard Le Tourneau's machines did it in a matter of hours.

Richard Le Tourneau was a genius who had left school at 14 years.

You can see his extraordinary machines on the www see some below:



He was a serious Christian man who made a fantastic amount of money! He was so successful in business that he chose to honour God by giving much of it away. **He challenged God to give him more than Richard could give away. God won!** See him on the www - it is a good look.

Every time you see one of these machines consider his motivation:

A bronze plaque on his grave says this - his motto: **"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you."** (Matthew 6: 33 NIV)

