

# “Had Enough?”

(Luke 12:13-21)

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## I. Introduction

### A. “Hoarders” TV show

1. Cats and dogs and junk
2. Are you married to a “hoarder?”
  - a. What we won’t throw away
  - b. “Might wear it again”....but never will
3. Can never seem to get “enough”
4. My “man cave”
  - a. Neon pink flamingo
  - b. My penny jar
  - c. Getting too heavy to move
5. The tragic death of Yussif...The Terrible Turk

The Terrible Turk was a 350-pound wrestler who won it all in Europe before coming to America to grab more glory. Yussif challenged Strangler Lewis, the American champion. The Turk tossed the Strangler around like a teddy bear and won. The new world champ picked up what he loved the most—money—and lots of it, which he demanded in U.S. gold coins. He crammed it into the money belt he wore around his huge circumference before setting sail back to Europe on the *S.S. Burgoyne*.

Many miles out to sea, the ship began to sink. Yussif went over the side with his bulging belt full of gold still strapped around his enormous frame. The added weight was too much for even the Terrible Turk to stay afloat. Before the lifeboats could reach him, he plunged straight to the bottom of the Atlantic like an oversize iron cannon ball...never to be seen again.

6. Today let's talk about greed, hoarding and misers

## **B. Start of a new series**

1. *“Surviving the Great Funk”...or “Had Enough”*

a. People I talked to this week

1. In a “funk”

2. The whole nation seems to be in one

3. Have had enough

b. Next week, “Worry, anxiety and panic attacks”

c. Then, “When Opportunity Knocks”

d. Then, “Understanding the times we live in”

1. Then, ““When will the Rapture happen?””

2. After that...preparing your children

a. The really big issues your kids are facing

b. Why so many kids leave the church when they leave the home

3. But today....a look at greed, hoarding and misers

## **II. Review**

### **A. Just months left before Jesus' crucifixion**

1. Jesus is in the middle of a sermon

2. A massive crowd pushed in to hear him

3. Warned them of the insidious dangers of false religion

4. But then the interruption

5. A question about money

### III. Text...Luke 12:13-21

#### A. The Loaded Question (vs. 13-14)

*(13) Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”*

1. Wow...interrupted his teaching
  - a. Preaching is the same as teaching...only louder
2. A question over a disputed inheritance
  - a. Common problem today
  - b. How people respond when there's money in the estate
3. Jews commonly left the estate to the eldest son
  - a. Based on Deuteronomy 21....primogenitor
  - b. The old Dutch way
  - c. Commodore Vanderbilt's estate
4. The oldest son was to take care of his mother, siblings and family business
  - a. Took the place of his father
5. Jesus' reply to the question

*(14) Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?”*

- a. “I'm not here to try civil cases”
  1. “My kingdom isn't of this world”
  2. On a spiritual mission
- b. But Jesus knew the younger brother had a problem with greed
- c. And “greed” is a spiritual issue

#### B. The Greedy Brother (v. 15)

***(15) Then Jesus said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”***

1. “on guard”
2. What is “greed”
  - a. “pleonexes”
  - b. “An inordinate desire for more riches”
  - c. Like drinking salt water. The more you drink, the thirstier you get
3. Disclaimer
  - a. We should work hard and diligently save
  - b. There is nothing wrong with getting rich
  - c. The problem isn’t the money....it’s the love of money
    1. Even for those who don’t have much
4. Ecclesiastes 5:10

***(10) Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.***

- a. Written by Solomon, the world’s wealthiest man
5. The key, ***a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions***
6. Two part sermon
  - a. Next week...the other side of greed
  - b. Concluding verse (34) ***“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”***

### **C. The Miserable Miser (vs. 16-19)**

***(16) And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. (17) He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’***

1. He came upon his wealth honestly

- a. Had more than he could ever use
  - 1. And more than he could even store
- b. What were his options?
  - 1. Could give away the excess
  - 2. Could let it rot
  - 3. Could build bigger barns

2. His plan (v. 18)

***(18) Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.'***

3. ***"and my goods"***

- a. Other toys
- 4. He'd be set for life

***(19) And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."***

- 5. He thought wealth would make him secure
- 6. Only one biopsy away from insecurity

#### **D. The Untimely Death (vs. 20-21)**

***(20) 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?"***

- 1. A miser's worst nightmare
  - a. Somebody else gets it all
- 2. Ecclesiastes 2:18-19

***(18) I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. (19) And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the work into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless.***

3. Watching people squander an inheritance
  - a. Grandma's turtle collection
  - b. Trust fund babies
    1. Gone in couple of generations

***(21) This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.***

4. Where is your treasure invested?
  - a. That's where your heart will be

## **IV. Application**

### **A. Do you have enough?**

1. Always in search of bigger barns
2. Do you judge a person's value by their net worth?
3. Is accumulating money your life's primary goal?
4. Do you feel discontent this morning?

### **B. I Timothy 6:6-10 tell us "How to find true contentment"**

***1. Make godliness your primary goal in life*** (I Timothy 6:6)

***(6) But godliness with contentment is great gain.***

- a. Godliness means to live like Jesus
  1. To display a loving generous heart
- b. Contentment will follow godliness
  1. No contentment without godliness
- c. We are promised great gain
  1. Not necessarily financial gain
  2. Not necessarily earthly gain

- d. If all I have is Jesus...He's more than enough
  - 1. Looking beyond this life
  - 2. This present suffering is nothing compared to glory that awaits the godly
- e. He's more than enough in this life also

**2. *Understand what happens when you die*** (I Timothy 6:7)

**(7) *For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.***

- a. In other words...you can't take it with you!
  - 1. It all gets left behind
- b. Leaving it to relatives
- c. Visiting estate sales
- d. The precious turtle collection
- e. You will leave as you came...

**3. *Know the difference between necessities and luxuries***

**(8) *But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.***

- a. "Wants" vs. "needs"
- b. Paul...*I have learned to be content in any circumstance*
- c. "Food and clothing" represents shelter and other necessities
  - 1. If that's *all* you have—it's enough

**4. *Beware of dangerous traps and foolish desires***

**(9) *People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.***

- a. It's okay to be rich
- b. But don't make getting rich your goal

c. This is a lesson for the poor also

1. The problem is the desire to be rich
2. Some may be poor!

d. “want” (“desire”).....v.9

1. Fairly strong word
2. More than seeing a new BMW and wanting it

e. Warned about the various traps and foolish desires

***1. Comparing your things with what others have***

a. Competition between newlyweds and their friends

1. Furniture and cars
2. Trips and houses

b. Be content and patient

c. Have a plan

d. Don't try to live above means

***2. Allowing the pursuit of wealth to consume your time and energy***

a. No time to serve Jesus

b. Trying to build estate

c. No time left for relationships

***3. Becoming overly proud of what you've accumulated***

a. Want to be seen as a “Big shot”

b. Think you're better than others

***4. Becoming a slave to debts...or income***

a. Working a second and third jobs to make payments on a new RV or boat

b. Stay out of debt

1. “Money makes a great servant but a terrible master”
2. Matthew 6:24

***No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.***

**5. Never content that you have enough**

- a. “Can never be too rich or too thin”
- b. Irrational quest for more
- c. Will Rogers

*“Too many people spend money they haven’t earned to buy things they don’t want, to impress people they don’t like.”*

**5. Don’t let the love of money cause you great grief (I Timothy 6:10)**

***(10) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.***

- a. The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil
  1. Sin spreads like a cancer
  2. Like water through the roots of a great tree
    - a. The whole tree
  3. Hard to contain a single sin
- b. Some have even strayed from the faith.....v.10
  1. Christians
  2. Lost to the cause
  3. No longer useful
- c. The tragedy of a wasted life

- d. *“have pierced themselves with many griefs”.....v.10*
  - 1. On earth
  - 2. Loss of kids’ love
  - 3. Marriage
  - 4. Wasted opportunities
- e. Wealthy people I’ve worked with

## **V. Summary**

### **A. Treat what you have like a careful and obedient trustee**

- 1. God will ask for an accounting
  - a. When God gives you opportunities
- 2. Those entrusted with more
  - a. The parable of the talents
- 3. But all will have to give an accounting
- 4. (v. 34) *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

### **B. How to tell if you’ve got a money problem**

- 1. *More obsessed with making and saving... than with giving*
- 2. *Covet having the best that money can buy*
- 3. *Jealous of what others have or make*
  - a. Think you deserved it instead
  - b. Resent others making more than you
- 4. *Like to flaunt your prized possessions*
  - a. Car
  - b. Clothes

c. Home

**5. *Try to impress people by telling them how much things cost***

**6. *Continually striving to get even richer***

**7. *Struggle with the reality of giving to the Lord***

**8. *Don't give joyfully or generously***

**9. *Willing to cheat to get money or to keep it***

a. Fudging on your expense accounts

b. IRS

c. The company

d. A customer

**10. *Hate your job, but love the pay***

**11. *You never seem to be content***

**12. *You never seem to have enough***

### **C. Do you have enough?**

1. When is enough, enough?

a. The parable of the talents

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10

***(10) Whoever loves money, never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.***

3. Jesus is more than enough