

WCBC SERMON NOTES - APRIL 8, 2018

TOPIC: Understanding Seven Great Bible Paradoxes
Sermon 1: *Gaining Riches Through Poverty!*

TEXT: Luke 12:13-21; Proverbs 13:7

INTRO: What is a paradox?

WHY IS THERE POVERTY IN RICHES?

1. RICHES DO NOT SATISFY: vv.17b,19 cf.Eccl. 5:10

Note: Verses 17b and 19 point out man's innate "greed" - cf. vv. 13-15

Note: Ecclesiastes 5:10 indicates that HAVING money is not the issue, our ATTITUDE towards it is!

- has vs. "loves"

"The love of riches will never, ever give satisfaction!"

2. RICHES CAN MAKE A PERSON GREEDY: v.18

Note: v.18 - "...build bigger ones"

* "If we are not careful, we can become covetous as riches and wealth have a tendency to do this to us. And in the process, we would want more, and more, and more!"

- Benjamin Franklin's Observation!

3. RICHES ARE FLEETING: v.20a cf.Prov.27:24a;23:5

Note: The Lord Jesus in verse 20a implies here that his riches are but temporary. They're here today, but gone tomorrow!

4. RICHES WOULD BE LEFT BEHIND: v.20b cf.Psalm 49:10

Note: *"You cannot bring your U-Haul in the hereafter!"

- King Solomon's Comment!
- John D. Rockefeller

5. RICHES CAN MAKE A PERSON A FOOL: v.20a

Note: Whether you like it or not, you are a fool if you think that true riches come from earthly, material wealth! - cf. Colossians 1:27

*"A TRULY wise man will not pursue the riches of this world as he knows they are but temporary!"

CONCLUSION: Christ's offer of true riches!

George W. Truett & A Rich Fool!

George W. Truett, a well-known pastor, was invited to dinner in the home of a very wealthy man in Texas. After the meal, the host led him to a place where they could get a good view of the surrounding area. Pointing to the oil wells punctuating the landscape, he boasted, "Twenty five years ago I had nothing. Now, as far as you can see, it's all mine." Looking in the opposite direction at his sprawling fields of grain, he said, "That's all mine." Turning east toward huge herds of cattle, he bragged, "They're all mine." Then pointing to the west, and a beautiful forest, he exclaimed, "That, too, is all mine." He then paused, expecting Dr. Truett to compliment him on his "great success." Truett however, placing one hand on the man's shoulder, and pointing heavenward with the other, simply said, "How much do you have in that direction?" The man hung his head, and confessed, "I never thought of that!"

- ODB, Oct. 24, 1992

Verse For Today

"There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; there is one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches!" - Proverbs 13:7 (NKJV)

Food For Thought

"The poverty of riches. The riches of poverty!" - Unknown