"<u>How Can We Invest Our Lives Wisely</u>, <u>So As To Be Rich Toward God</u>?" <u>The Parable of The Rich Fool</u> - (Luke 12:13-21) <u>11/05/2017</u>

Introduction

I. <u>The realities of heaven and hell</u>. (vv. 1-13)

A. <u>A man in the crowd speaks up</u>. (v. 13)

II. This man got something he had not bargained for! Jesus reveals the condition of his heart. (vv. 14-15)

III. <u>How to be really rich</u>, <u>we must be rich toward God</u>. (vv. 16-21)

A. Jesus answers a most vital question; "How we can invest our lives wisely, so as to be rich toward God."

B. How can we determine if we are falling into the sin of greed?

- 1. Do my thoughts more often run after material things than after God Himself?
- 2. Do I ever compromise Godly character in pursuit of material gain?
- 3. Do I enjoy material things more than I enjoy knowing God?
- 4. How do I respond when I lose material things?
- 5. What would I do if I suddenly came into a fortune?
- C. The constant problem of greed.

1. "The American Way of Life"

IV. The Bible reveals three fundamental problems with greed. (vv. 13, 17-20)

A. Greed ignores the priority of relationships over riches. (v. 13, 15)

B. <u>Greed ignores the Lordship of Christ over everything</u>. (vv. 17-19)

C. Greed ignores the shortness of life and the fact of eternity. (vv. 18-20)

V. Jesus was teaching His disciples and the multitudes to beware of a Foolish Attitude toward material possessions.

A. As the man in front of Jesus and the rich man in the parable - Each of us has a choice to make about how we invest the rest of our lives.

VI. <u>There were several wealthy men recorded in the Bible.</u> <u>Men such as Job, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and King David.</u> <u>What is the difference between these men and the ones in our story</u>?

1 Tim. 6:17-19, Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. ¹⁸Instruct them to do good, <u>to be rich in good works</u>, <u>to be generous and ready to share</u>, ¹⁹storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.