

Fooling Ourselves

Luke 12:13-21

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And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

Luke 12:15

- We are fooling ourselves when we equate **wealth with worth** - verse 15
- We are fooling ourselves when we take **credit** for God's work - verse 16
 - Deuteronomy 8:17-18 then you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.'¹⁸ "And you shall remember the LORD your God, for *it is* He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day.
- We are fooling ourselves when we fail to seek **God's counsel** - 17-19 "**I will**"
 - James 4:13-16 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit";¹⁴ whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.¹⁵ Instead you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."
- We are fooling ourselves when we fail to see **man's need** - verse 17-19 "**My crops, my barns, my goods my soul**"
- We are fooling ourselves when we mistake the **body for the soul** - verse 19
 - Matthew 16:26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?
- We are fooling ourselves when we mistake **time for eternity** - verse 19
 - Luke 12:4-5 "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do."⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!
- We are fooling ourselves when we think of **enjoying life** while **facing death**. Verse 20
 - Wealth can not **keep you alive**
 - Wealth can not **buy back opportunities**
 - Wealth can not **pay for your future**
- We are fooling ourselves when we equate **stewardship with ownership** . - Verse 21
 - Deuteronomy 10:14 Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, *also* the earth with all that *is* in it.
 - Ps 24:1 The earth *is* the LORD's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.
 - Haggai 2:8 'The silver *is* Mine, and the gold *is* Mine,' says the LORD of hosts.