

July 31, 2022

Luke 12:13-21

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store

up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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The rich man “thought to himself, ‘What should I do?’” What did Jesus or do you think he should do?

What keeps us from sharing from our abundance? Are we greedy? Or, is it only those who have more than we have – more money, more houses, more things – that are greedy?

“I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.”

It has come to my attention that in the last 20 years there has been a significant growth in the number of storage buildings and businesses. What does this say about us and our society?

“Be fearful when others are greedy. Be greedy when others are fearful.” What does this mean?