

THE ALL-AMERICAN SIN

Luke 12:13-21

Is it possible that _____ is so respectable in our culture, so much the norm that we don't even notice it?

I. JESUS INTRODUCES THE TOPIC OF GREED 12:13-15

A. Greed Can _____ from the Truly Important

- 1) The man in the crowd was more concerned about an _____ than hearing eternal matters
- 2) Our concern for money and _____ can be the ultimate distraction—a form of spiritual ADHD

B. Greed Can Cause Interpersonal _____

- 1) This man was probably the younger son who wanted to divide the family _____ and sell his part
- 2) Jesus refuses to be part of what will end up _____ this family; He came to be a reconciler

C. Greed Is an Insatiable Desire for _____

- 1) Greed is like a thirsty man who only has _____ water to drink; it causes an even greater thirst
- 2) Greed is listed in the Bible with the worst sins known to man; it is a sin that is spiritually _____

D. Greed Is Based on the Wrong Definition of _____

- 1) Many _____ including many evangelical Christians, subscribe to that wrong definition
- 2) Greed is listed in the Bible with the worst sins known to man; it is a sin that is spiritually _____

II. JESUS ILLUSTRATES THE CONSEQUENCES OF GREED 12:16-21

The story begins with a farmer that God blesses with a bumper crop: _____ is not sinful in and of itself

A. This Farmer Had to Maintain and _____ His Stuff

- 1) In that day wealth was not kept in banks; he had to build more grain _____ to protect his wealth
- 2) Our _____ can possess us! When we have stuff, we have to store, protect and maintain it all

B. This Farmer Made Three Grave Errors that Lie at the Heart of Greed

- 1) He speaks to his _____ as if riches and stuff could actually bring it peace, contentment and joy
Materialism is the belief that material things that we can buy and possess can make us _____
- 2) He speaks only of "my" & "I" and leaves _____ completely out of the picture: the Bible calls him a fool
 - a) He did not even give _____ to God for the prosperity that God had so bountifully given him
 - b) He failed to understand that God had simply lent him his possessions to manage as a _____
- 3) He focused his wealth completely on himself and cared nothing for the needs of any other _____

C. This Farmer Did Not Take the _____ View

- 1) When we pass into eternity, our stuff passes into the hands of others who often don't _____ about it
- 2) We must substitute a more eternal goal than laying up treasure for ourselves: be rich toward _____
 - a) We are "rich toward God" when we use our possessions to lay up treasure in _____
 - b) We are "rich into God" when we are so _____ in our relationship with God that greed dies out