

Invitation to Greatness!!!

What better determines ones status or “greatness” in our culture?

The more one h_____ or the more one g_____ !

*Luke 12*¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life^b? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ “Consider how the wild flowers grow. —you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.

³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Be on guard against “g_____” and a life consisting of a_____ into “s_____” at the expense of being “_____” towards God!

Perhaps this is why the value of “giving” p_____ and “off the top” is so important to the Christ follower!

Jesus then brings up the clincher question we all are asking. “If I am going to give... .. in a way that would be characterized as “rich towards God!” - “Will I have _____?”

Answer: E_____ is not taken care of by you, its taken care of by your Father in heaven!
You “seek first His _____” and all these things will be taken care of.

Jesus loves us too much to relegate us to a life of bondage under other “g_____”!

*Luke 18*²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. ²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

Jesus calls for “d_____ s_____” because that ushers in “d_____ f_____” which sets us free from lesser god’s like “money and possessions!
This leaves “J_____ A_____” on the throne of our hearts!

The man never found out about life on the other side of that step of faith into sacrifice?

*Luke 21*¹ As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. ² He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. ³ “Truly I tell you,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. ⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

A heart that Jesus considers “great” is marked by amazing g_____!

He pointed out that she gave out of her p_____ and gave it a____!