

When Is Enough, Enough?

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Key Text: Luke 12 (focus: vv. 13–34) — NASB 1995

Supporting Texts: Deuteronomy 21:17; 1 Timothy 6:17–19; Job (theme); Matthew 6:19–34 (parallel)

Introduction

- Stores push seasons early: Thanksgiving, then Christmas right behind it.
 - It raises a heart-level question: **When is it enough?**
 - We live in abundance—so much that we throw food away, and even our “extra space” becomes storage.
 - The real issue is not “Do you have possessions?”
 - The real issue is: **Do possessions have you?**
 - Luke 12 answers with one hard warning: **Greed is never satisfied, and worry is never solved by more stuff.**
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Sermon Outline

I. Greed Is a Heart Problem, Not a Math Problem

A. The inheritance request exposes a heart, not a legal case

Luke 12:13–15 (NASB 1995)

- A man wants Jesus to force a “fair” division.
- Jesus refuses to become his judge, then goes straight for the heart:
 - “Be on your guard against every form of greed...”
 - “Not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.”

B. Jesus targets “every form” of greed

- Not only stealing greed.
- Not only rich greed.
- Greed can hide under:
 - “It’s only fair.”
 - “I deserve my share.”
 - “I’m just being wise.”
- Greed is **the heart squeezing life into money**, like money is oxygen.

Application:

- If money can make you happy, money can make you miserable.
 - If your peace depends on what you own, you’re one crisis away from collapse.
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II. The Rich Fool: More Storage Doesn’t Fix an Empty Soul

A. The man’s problem is not farming success—it’s selfish purpose

Luke 12:16–21

- Nothing wrong with barns.
- Nothing wrong with planning.
- The condemnation is his “I, me, my” religion:
 - “I will tear down my barns...”
 - “I will build larger ones...”
 - “I will store...”
 - “I will say to my soul...”

B. God calls him what he is

- “You fool!”
- His life ends that night.
- His storage outlives him.

- His soul stands empty before God.

Main Truth:

- If your plan doesn't include God, your plan is already broken.
- If your surplus never turns outward, it will turn poisonous inward.

Cross-application:

1 Timothy 6:17–19

- Wealth is uncertain.
 - God is generous.
 - The rich are to be rich in good works, generous, ready to share.
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III. Worry Reveals a Misplaced Priority

A. Jesus doesn't say "Don't work." He says "Don't worship necessities."

Luke 12:22–23

- "Do not worry about your life... what you will eat... what you will put on."
- Life is more than food.
- The body is more than clothing.
- He's not condemning planning—He's condemning obsession.

B. God provides; God can also take away

- Worry pretends you are your own provider.
- Greed pretends you are your own security.
- Both are forms of practical unbelief.

Illustration (hard and honest):

- People beg God for a blessing, then use the blessing as an excuse to neglect worship.
- That reveals priorities: **the gift replaces the Giver.**

Application:

- If a blessing pushes God down your list, you turned a blessing into an idol.
 - If you only move God to #1 when crisis hits, your “faith” is mostly emergency-only.
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IV. Contentment Is the Proof of Trust

A. The real test: if everything material vanished, would Christ be enough?

- Health, money, possessions, convenience—gone.
- Would salvation in Christ still satisfy you?

B. God has always demanded the same thing: the heart

- Not theatrics.
- Not guilt-performance.
- Not religious sadness.
- **A surrendered heart.**

Core Call:

- You don't change habits until you change the heart.
 - Contentment is not laziness; it is **peaceful trust** with God first.
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Conclusion / Invitation

- Luke 12 is a mirror.
- It exposes greed, worry, misplaced priorities, and shallow gratitude.

- The question is simple:
 - **Is Jesus enough for you?**
 - If not, don't excuse it—repent of it.
 - Ask God for a changed heart, proper focus, and real contentment.
 - Put God back where He belongs: **first**.
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Slide Deck (12–15 Slides)

Slide 1 — When Is Enough, Enough?

Main Content:

- “When do I stop needing more?”
- “When will I be satisfied?”

Scripture:

- Luke 12 (theme)

Slide 2 — The Real Issue

Main Content:

- Possessions aren't the problem
- Priorities are the problem

Scripture:

- Luke 12:15

Slide 3 — The Warning

Main Content:

- “Be on your guard against every form of greed”

Scripture:

- Luke 12:15

Slide 4 — Life ≠ Stuff

Main Content:

- Abundance doesn't equal a meaningful life

Scripture:

- Luke 12:15

Slide 5 — The Rich Fool's Plan

Main Content:

- Bigger barns
- Bigger storage
- Bigger comfort

Scripture:

- Luke 12:18–19

Slide 6 — God's Verdict

Main Content:

- “You fool!”
- Life can end tonight

Scripture:

- Luke 12:20

Slide 7 — The Question That Cuts

Main Content:

- “Who will own what you stored?”

Scripture:

- Luke 12:20–21

Slide 8 — Rich Toward God

Main Content:

- The goal isn't "more to self"
- The goal is "rich toward God"

Scripture:

- Luke 12:21

Slide 9 — Worry and Worship

Main Content:

- Worry is what happens when necessities become gods

Scripture:

- Luke 12:22

Slide 10 — Life Is More

Main Content:

- More than food
- More than clothes
- More than accounts

Scripture:

- Luke 12:23

Slide 11 — Blessing Can Become an Idol

Main Content:

- Don't use God's gifts to replace God

Scripture:

- Luke 12 (principle)

Slide 12 — Contentment Proves Trust

Main Content:

- Contentment = peace with God first

Scripture:

- 1 Timothy 6:17–19 (support)

Slide 13 — Final Test

Main Content:

- If everything vanished...
- Would Christ be enough?

Scripture:

- Job (theme)

Slide 14 — The Call

Main Content:

- Put God back at #1
- Change the heart, then habits follow

Scripture:

- Luke 12 (overall)

WordPress Excerpt

Luke 12 confronts the hunger for “more” and exposes the trap of greed, worry, and misplaced priorities. Jesus warns that life does not consist of possessions, and He calls us to be rich toward God. The real test is simple: if everything material vanished, would knowing Christ still be enough?

Series

Doctrines

Providence of God; Sin of Greed; Stewardship; Contentment; Judgment; Eternity; Lordship of Christ; Discipleship; Faith and Trust; Idolatry of Materialism

Topics

Greed; Worry; Contentment; Money; Priorities; Thanksgiving; Stewardship; Materialism; Faith; Eternal Perspective