

Jesus & Money – Short and to the Point



Synopsis: We review three more parables here that look at money and wealth in general. Again, Jesus uses money and wealth, concepts we all understand to explain more complicated concepts like salvation and everlasting life.

Biblical References (ESV, English Standard Version is used)

Verse	Text
Mat 13:44-46	The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”
Luke 12:16-21	And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ “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. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’ “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?’ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”
Luke 16:19-31	There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if

	someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"
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Questions for Discussion or Journaling

The following questions are perfect for a group discussion. If working individually, these questions are great for journal.

1. In the first two parables, both people saw the value in what they had found, be it treasure or pearls. How would you convince someone of the value of salvation?
2. The rich fool made plans for his surplus but he ignored God. What should he have done to acknowledge God and why?
3. What happens if your focus is on money and not on God?
4. A poor man and a rich man had radically different outcomes in the afterlife. How could the rich man's actions in his life could have changed his afterlife
5. Why did Abraham receive to send a supernatural warning to the rich man's brothers?