

A photograph of a farm scene under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a large red barn with a white base and a gambrel roof stands on a green lawn. Behind the barn are several tall, cylindrical silos. Two are light-colored with white domed tops, and one is dark blue with a metal ladder on its exterior. The word "STOREHOUSES" is written in white, italicized capital letters across a dark grey rectangular box in the center of the image.

STOREHOUSES

*Matthew Murdoch
30 July 2023*

The Parable of the Rich Fool

“Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’”

And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry."'" But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Do Not Be Anxious

And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?"

Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.””

Luke 12:13-24 (ESV)

“But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”

1 Timothy 6:6–10 (ESV)

“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.””

Hebrews 13:5 (ESV)

His bulging storehouse was his confidence.

A dwindling storehouse can be your anxiety.

“...if riches increase, set not your heart on them.”

Psalms 62:10(c) (ESV)

“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD,
and he will repay him for his deed.

Proverbs 19:17 (ESV)

Do Not Be Anxious

“And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.”

“But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.”

1 Timothy 6:8 (ESV)

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

Matthew 6:34 (ESV)

“...Give us this day our daily bread...”

Matthew 6:11 (ESV)

Do Not Be Anxious

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The first folly presents a false security.

The second folly is a false provision.

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