

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL Sunday School 'Lesson'

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LESSON FOR DECEMBER 24

A LESSON IN TRUST AND PRE- PAREDNESS

LESSON TEXT—Luke 12:13-16.
GOLDEN TEXT—The life is more than
meat, and the body is more than raiment.
—Luke 12:22.

PRIMARY TOPIC—The Story of a
Foolish Rich Man.
2. JUNIOR TOPIC—A Foolish Rich Man.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC
—Rich Toward God.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC
—True Riches.

Since on October 8 we had a lesson
on the birth and childhood of Jesus,
many will doubtless prefer to have
this new lesson instead of the Christ-
mas lesson.

I. A Warning Against Covetousness (vv. 13-21).

1. The Occasion (vv. 13-15). One of
the company requested Jesus to be
umpire in a disputed estate. Two
brothers were in trouble over an in-
heritance. Christ refused to enter the
sphere of the civil law and warned
against the spirit of avarice. Christ's
mission was preeminently spiritual.

2. Enforcement of the Warning (vv.
16-21). The parable of the rich man
shows clearly that to be concerned
with earthly riches while neglecting
God is the height of folly. The Lord's
warning is of great importance today;
for many are seeking gold and forget-
ting God. Note (1) his increase in
goods (v. 16). His riches were rightly
obtained, for the ground brought forth
plentifully. This shows that a man
may be rich because of the Lord's
blessing upon him. (2) His perplexity
(v. 17). His land was producing more
than his barns would hold. He did not
want it to go to waste. If he had pos-
sessed the right views of life and a
sense of stewardship before God, he
would have seen that his barns at least
had enough for his personal needs and
that he could have distributed his sur-
plus to the needy and for benevolent
purposes. (3) The fatal choice (vv.
18, 19). He chose to enlarge his
barns and give up his life to ease and
luxury. It ought to be a delightful
task for men whom God has made
rich to devote their time and energy to
the distribution of their possessions to
benevolent purposes. (4) The awful
indictment (vv. 20, 21). God calls
him a fool.

II. The Certain Cure for Anxiety (vv. 22-34).

Having shown the folly of the rich
man who gained gold but lost God, He
now urged the disciples to trust God
and dismiss all anxious care. He as-
sured them that they need not be an-
xious even for the necessities of life.

1. The Argument (vv. 22, 23). This
is summed up in one brief sentence:
"The life is more than food, and the
body is more than raiment." The God
who gave the life and made the body
should be trusted to provide food and
clothing.

2. The Illustrations (vv. 24-28). (1)
God's care for the fowls (vv. 24-26).
The ravens do not sow nor reap—they
have not storehouse or barn, yet they
live, for God feeds them. If God does
not forget the fowls, certainly He
would do more for His children. (2)
God's care for the flowers of the field
(vv. 27, 28). If God is so careful of
those flowers which appear but for a
day, how much more will He clothe
His children!

3. The Exhortations (vv. 29-34). (1)
Make not the getting of food and
clothes your chief concern. Trust God
to provide them. (2) Seek the king-
dom of God (v. 31). Those who make
God's kingdom first shall have all their
needs supplied (Phil. 4:19). (3) Be
not afraid (v. 32). God's good pleas-
ure is upon His own and all good
things will He give them. (4) Prac-
tice self-denial in order to be able to
give gifts to those in need (vv. 33, 34).
The doing of such deeds will tend to
lift the thoughts upward to God—to
trust Him.

III. Be Ready for the Coming of the
Lord (vv. 35-40).

Having warned the disciples against
the acquisition of worldly goods while
forgetting God, and shown them the
needlessness of anxiety for food and
clothes, He shows them the blessed-
ness of being in a state of readiness
when the Lord shall come. Convic-
tion as to the certainty of the Lord's
coming is the sure cure for worldliness
and anxious care. This attitude of
heart He made clear by two parables—
that of the returning of the Lord and
that of the thief. The Lord will be so
pleased with those who are waiting
for Him that He will take delight in
sitting at the banquet with them, and
even serve them. The parable of the
thief shows that the time of the Lord's
coming is not known.

Paul's Wish.
I count all things but loss for the
excellency of the knowledge of Christ
Jesus my Lord; if by any means I
might attain unto the resurrection of
the dead.—Philippians 3:8-11.

So Many Ravens.
The Lord never had so many ravens
as he has this morning.—T. De
Witt Talmage.

God is Known Everywhere.
In Judah is God known; His name
is great in Israel.—Psalm 78:1.

What would your community be
like without your home town paper?

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of a judge-
ment of the superior court in the
case entitled B. R. Barnhill, adminis-
trator, et als vs E. T. Barnhill, et
commissioner will, on the 27th day
of December, 1922, at 12 o'clock, M.,

in front of the court house door at
Williamston, North Carolina, sell to
the highest bidder for cash, the fol-
lowing described tract of land:

Bounded on the north by the lands
of Julius James, on the east by a
large canal, on the south by the lands
of Augustus Keel and on the west
by the Wild Cat road, containing 40
acres, more or less, and being a part
of the home place of the late J. E.
Barnhill, and being the same premises
occupied at this time by Kopy A.
Barnhill. This land is sold subject
to dower and homestead.

This the 27th day of November,
1922

B. A. CRITCHER,
Commissioner.

TRUSTEE'S SALE

By virtue of the authority confer-
red in me by a deed of trust executed
to me by B. B. Biggs and wife, Eula
Biggs, on the 13 day of February,
1922, and duly recorded in the reg-
ister of deed's office in Martin coun-
ty in book G-2 at page 434 to secure

the payment of a certain bond bear-
ing even date therewith, and the stip-
ulations in said deed of trust not hav-
ing been complied with, I shall expose
at public auction, for cash, on Mon-
day, the 8th day of January, 1923 at
12 m., at the court house door in
Martin county, the following property:

First tract: bounded on the north
by E. A. Clark land, on the south
by G. R. Silverthorn, on the east by
G. C. James, and on the west by Bal-
ley and Barnhill, containing seventy
acres, more or less, and being a part
of the Ross land.

Second tract: Beginning at a stake
on the road, J. R. Beach's corner, and
thence due south 126 poles to Joseph
Aushon's line, thence north 53 W. 70
poles, thence N. 22 W. 88 poles, to
the road, thence S. 89 1-4 E. 16 poles
to the beginning, containing by es-
timation twenty acres, more or less.

The above two tracts being the same
land that was deeded to B. B. Biggs
by Julius and G. C. Jones, by deed
dated Jan. 2, 1919, and recorded in
book Y-1 at page 48. Also one Ford

car, two mules and all farming uten-
sils of whatever kind and nature and
description now belonging to said B.
B. Biggs and wife.

W. C. MANNING,
Trustee.
This, December 5, 1922.

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of an order
of the clerk of superior court in the
special proceeding entitled: E. A.
Clark vs James & Reddick, the un-
dersigned commissioner will, on the
15th day of January, 1923, at 12:00
o'clock M., at the court house door
of Williamston, North Carolina, sell
to the highest bidder for cash the
following described property:

Same being a warehouse and lot
in the town of Everetts, North Caro-
lina, owned by Clark, James & Red-
dick, and being located on the east
side of A. C. L. depot, and being
the same lot sold to James, Clark
& Reddick by E. A. Clark. Said deed
being of record in the Martin county
public registry, to which reference is

hereby made for a more accurate de-
scription. The said lot includes also
the right of way, 25 feet wide, which
was conveyed to the said parties by
judgement of superior court in the
November special term, 1922.
B. A. CRITCHER,
A. R. DUNNING,
Commissioners

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