

Parables about being ready

**Luke 12:16-40**

- (16) He spoke a parable to them, saying, “The ground of a certain rich man brought forth abundantly.
- (17) He reasoned within himself, saying, ‘What will I do, because I don’t have room to store my crops?’
- (18) He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns, and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
- (19) I will tell my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.”
- (20) “But God said to him, ‘You foolish one, tonight your soul is required of you. The things which you have prepared—whose will they be?’
- (21) So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”
- (22) He said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, don’t be anxious for your life, what you will eat, nor yet for your body, what you will wear.
- (23) Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.
- (24) Consider the ravens: they don’t sow, they don’t reap, they have no warehouse or barn, and God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than birds!
- (25) Which of you by being anxious can add a cubit to his height?
- (26) If then you aren’t able to do even the least things, why are you anxious about the rest?
- (27) Consider the lilies, how they grow. They don’t toil, neither do they spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
- (28) But if this is how God clothes the grass in the field, which today exists, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith?
- (29) Don’t seek what you will eat or what you will drink; neither be anxious.
- (30) For the nations of the world seek after all of these things, but your Father knows that you need these things.
- (31) But seek God’s Kingdom, and all these things will be added to you.
- (32) Don’t be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the Kingdom.
- (33) Sell that which you have, and give gifts to the needy. Make for yourselves purses which don’t grow old, a treasure in the heavens that doesn’t fail, where no thief approaches, neither moth destroys.
- (34) For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
- (35) “Let your waist be dressed and your lamps burning.
- (36) Be like men watching for their lord, when he returns from the marriage feast; that, when he comes and knocks, they may immediately open to him.
- (37) Blessed are those servants, whom the lord will find watching when he comes. Most certainly I tell you, that he will dress himself, and make them recline, and will come and serve them.
- (38) They will be blessed if he comes in the second or third watch, and finds them so.
- (39) But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what hour the thief was coming, he would have watched, and not allowed his house to be broken into.
- (40) Therefore be ready also, for the Son of Man is coming in an hour that you don’t expect him.”