

Luke 12:20

But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

"He who dies with the most toys wins." Have you ever heard that before? But the truth is, based upon today's devotional verse, "He who dies with the most toys is a fool"

To put this into perspective, we need to read the entire parable that Jesus was speaking here.

† **Luke 12:16-21** *Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.' " ' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."*

It is true for men that the older they get, the more expensive their toys get. Now there is nothing wrong with having toys, or things. The problem is when those things become a priority in your life and you neglect doing for others so you can have your toys or stuff.

For me, being a musician, my toys are keyboards, and they can be anywhere from a \$1000 to \$5000, which is a lot of money. Now I can try to justify it by saying it's part of my music ministry. But if I have to justify it, is it really part of that ministry, or just something I want for myself? There is a fine line sometimes, but if it came down to buying a new keyboard or helping out someone in need, I would choose to help out those in need.

But this world want's us to believe that you have to have more to really be somebody, or something in the world. Yet Jesus was poor (financially). He had no paying job, He was homeless and had only one garment to wear, one pair of sandals, and He didn't have a camel or a chariot to travel around in... should I go on? Yet He was the richest man to walk the earth, because all His treasure is stored in Heaven, and on earth, and that treasure here on earth is you and I. He gave up all His treasures and cool things in heaven, to come and purchase us here on this earth.

Yet, even as Christians, we put so much emphasis on things that we can't even take with us when we leave this earth, and once we are gone, who will have them anyway?

† ***But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'*** (underlined for emphasis)

Look around your home at the things you have right now. Now, if for some reason, you were to leave this earth tonight, what would happen to all your stuff? I mean, be honest with yourself. How many in your family would fight over certain things that they want, and argue about who would get stuck with things you have that nobody wants. And some of those things that you thought were really great, and that you just had to have, spending a lot of hard earned money on at the time you got it. Now it will just end up at a yard sales or donated to the Salvation Army.

If you really want to leave something for others that would benefit their time here on earth and their eternity, may I suggest pulling out your bible, you know, the paper one (not an app on your phone or tablet) and start reading it everyday, and highlighting passages that speak to your heart and make notes in it as well. Then when you leave this earth, how many will want this bible to see what you highlighted and learned over the years.

So, what will you leave for your children or grandchildren.

A bunch of useless toys that they will play with for a short time then sell or give away.

Or God's word and how He has spoken to you over the years?

- † **Psalm 17:14-15** *With Your hand from men, O LORD, From men of the world who have their portion in this life, And whose belly You fill with Your hidden treasure. They are satisfied with children, And leave the rest of their possession for their babes. As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.*

- † **John 14:27a** *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you.*