

Steve Greenberg's Handout, Sunday 8:30 & 10, Feb 15, 2026

Week 29 Feb 15.2026: Luke 12:1-21 Hypocrisy And The Rich Fool

Luke 12:1-3 Beware of Hypocrisy (Matt. 10:26-27) God Knows and Cares

Luk 12:1 In the meantime (at this time), when an innumerable multitude (many thousands) of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another (stepping on one another), He(Jesus) began to say to His disciples first of all, "Beware (be continually, constantly on guard) of the leaven (yeast, mostly fungi, that spreads rapidly, Leaven is a metaphor for sin and evil increasing, selfishness) of the Pharisees (corrupting influences and teachings, hindering people from accepting the Messiah), which is hypocrisy (living opposite what they are saying and representing to others, it producing self-righteous pride).

Mar 8:15 Then He(Jesus) charged them, saying, "Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."

Mat 16:12 Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Luk 12:2 "For there is nothing covered (carefully concealed by man) that will not be revealed, nor hidden (secret) that will not be known (made known).

Mat 10:26 "Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

God sees all things, David said I sin against you, you first.

Psa 51:4 (A Psalm of David) Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight--...

1Cor 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

Luk 12:3 "Therefore, whatever you have spoken in the dark, will be heard in the light, and what you have "(Lit:) spoken in the ear" in inner rooms (or, whispered behind closed doors) will be proclaimed (shouted) on the housetops (housetops added living spaces) (a reference to future judgment).

Luke 12:4-7 Jesus Teaches the Fear of God (Matt. 10:8-31)

Luk 12:4 "And I say to you, "My friends", do not be afraid (fear) of those who kill the body, and after that, have no more (nothing more) that they can do. (v4-7 uses the words fear 5 times)

The fear of man is a snare, look out for trying to please man

Luk 12:5 "But I will show you (**warn you**), whom you should fear (**Godly reverence, awe struck, recognizing the awesomeness of God, Godly fear**), Fear Him (**God**) who, after He has killed (**you**), has power to cast (**you**) into hell (**Greek Gehenna, eternal punishment**); yes, I say to you (**stand in great awe of God and**), fear Him!

Psa 119:120 My flesh trembles for fear of You, And I am afraid of Your judgments.

Live in God's presence not mans, some people are so concerned about what other people think, don't make decisions on what others think but according to God, many people sin because of peer pressure, don't try to empress mankind.

Today many in America have lost the fear of God.

Gr Gehenna, a Greek version of the Hebrew for Valley of Hinnom, a ravine formerly used to sacrifice children, turned into a garbage dump and burned continuously, located just south of Jerusalem. Often regarded in ancient times as symbolic of hell (the lake of fire), a realm reserved for the wicked. Mentioned in Matt 5:22, 29, 30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15, 33; Mark 9:43, 45, 47; Luke 12:5; James 3:6.

Luk 12:6 "Are not **five sparrows** sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before (**or, in the presence**) God. (**Greek assarion, A Roman copper coin, approx. 1/16 a day's wages for an unskilled worker**)

Mat 6:25 "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Mat 6:26 "**Look at the birds of the air**, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Luk 12:7 "But (**in fact**) the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear (**or, be afraid**), therefore you, are of more value, than many sparrows.

Luke 12:8-12 Confess Christ Before Men (Matt. 10:32-33)

Luk 12:8 "Also I say to you (**or, I tell you the truth**), whoever confesses Me (**declares Me, as his Lord, luk 9:23**) before men, him the "**Son of Man**" (**A messianic title, Jesus used for himself**), also will confess (**as one of His own**), before the angels of God

You do not go to hell because you have sinned, you go to hell because you reject Jesus

Luk 12:9 "But he who denies Me before men, will be denied before (**in the presence of**) the angels of God. (**There is eternal consequences for those who deny Christ. Live your life**)

acknowledging and pleasing God, don't live as hypocrite: say you are a Christian and please man and not God).

Luk 12:10 "And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit (**that is, whoever intentionally discredits the Holy Spirit by attributing His miracles to Satan**), it will not be forgiven (**Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit involves treating the Holy Spirit irreverently by denying the power and work of the Holy Spirit, this will lead ultimately to rejecting the deity of Christ**).

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is the persistent and unrepentant resistance against the work of the Holy Spirit and His message about Jesus

Luk 12:11 "Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities (**or, bring you to trials before rulers, and authorities**), do not worry (**don't be afraid**), about how or what you should answer or what you should say (**don't worry about how you are going to defend yourself**),

Mar 13:11 "But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

Luk 12:12 "For the Holy Spirit will teach you (**tell you and help you**) in that very hour what you ought to say."

Gal 5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Luke 12:13-21 The Parable of the Rich Fool (Covetousness Denounced)

Luk 12:13 Then one (**someone**) from the crowd said to Him(**Jesus**), "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me (**family inheritance, father's estate, this is about greed and freedom, what is right and wrong**)."

Luk 12:14 But He(**Jesus**) said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you (**you decide such things among yourselves**)?"

Luk 12:15 And He(**Jesus**) said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness (**watch out and guard yourselves against every form of greed**), for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things, he possesses (**or, life is not measured by how much one owns**)."

1Tim 6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

1Tim 6:7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

1Tim 6:8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

1Tim 6:9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

1Tim 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Luk 12:16 Then He(**Jesus**) spoke a parable (**story to illustrate a truth**) to them, saying: "The ground (**fertile ground**) of a certain rich man yielded plentifully (**produced an abundant crop**).

God does not prohibit wealth and material things, Jesus clearly warns his hearers about its dangers. Wealth and lots of possessions tends to lead a person to self-sufficiency and greed.

Luk 12:17 "And he thought (**reasoned**) within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room (**large enough**) to store my crops?'(6-I's and 5-my's)

Luk 12:18 "So he (**rich man**) said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns (**or, storehouses**) and build greater (**bigger ones with more room**), and there I will store all my crops and my goods (**grains and wheat**).

Luk 12:19 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease (**rest and relax**); eat, drink, and be merry (**the idea is celebrate continually for how much I have**)." (The reality is you can't take any of this with your, your soul)

Luk 12:20 "But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you (**tonight you will die**); then whose will those things be, which you have provided (**everything you worked for and stored for yourself**)?'

Psa 39:6 Surely every man walks about like a shadow; Surely they busy themselves in vain; He heaps up riches, And does not know who will gather them.

Psa 52:3 You love evil more than good, Lying rather than speaking righteousness. Selah

Psa 52:4 You love all devouring words, You deceitful tongue.

Psa 52:5 God shall likewise destroy you forever; He shall take you away, and pluck you out of your dwelling place, And uproot you from the land of the living. Selah

Psa 52:6 The righteous also shall see and fear, And shall laugh at him, saying,

Luk 12:21 "So is he who lays up treasure (**store up earthly wealth**) for himself (**hoard's possessions**), and is not rich (**in his relationship**) toward God (**is a fool**)."

End