

THE MAN GOD CALLED A FOOL

Luke 1: 16 - 21

INTRODUCTION:

1. God and Christ applied the term "fool" to several people throughout the Bible:

- (1) Psa. 14:1 -- *"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God"*.
- (2) Prov. 28: 26-- *"He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool"*
- (3) Matt. 7: 26 - 27 -- To the man who hears but does not obey
- (4) Matt. 25: 1 - 13 -- The one that does not prepare for judgment is a fool.

2. Let us look at some of the reasons why this man was a "fool".

I. BECAUSE OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD:

1. He failed to recognize the source of his wealth; he talked about "My fruits", "My goods" and "My Barns" -- Luke 12: 17 - 18
2. He never one time gave God thanks for his blessings -- Phil. 4:6
3. He showed no dependence upon God -- Acts 17: 28
4. Paul said in I Cor. 10:26 -- *"For the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof"*
5. The Lord said in the Psalms: *"For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills."* -- Psa. 50:10; Haggai 2:8; Deut. 8: 17 - 18; I Chron. 29:14
6. FRIEND -- what is your ATTITUDE toward God?
 - (1) Have you left Him out of your life and your plans as this man did?
 - (2) James warns about going about daily life and leaving God out -- James 4: 13 - 17
 - (3) Have you obeyed the gospel, and are you trying to live a faithful Christians life?
 - (4) If not, you have left God out of your life.

II. BECAUSE OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD OTHERS:

1. *"What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits"* -- Luke 12:17
2. He had not thought of helping his fellowman who was in need -- he was self-centered -- II Tim. 3:2
3. Our attitude toward others determines God's attitude toward us
 - (1) James 2:13 -- *"For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy"*
 - (2) Matt. 6:15 -- *"But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses"*
 - (3) Eph. 4: 32; I John 3:17; Matt. 25:40; Acts 9:4
4. WHAT is your ATTITUDE toward those who are lost??
 - (1) Are you willing to sacrifice time and money that others might hear the gospel -- Gal. 6: 1 - 10; James 5: 19 - 20; Mk. 16: 15 - 16

III. HE WAS A FOOL BECAUSE OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD LIFE:

1. This man said, "*Soul, thou has much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry*" -- Luke 12:19
2. He thought his soul could be satisfied and provided for with MATERIAL THINGS
 - (1) Luke 12:15b -- "*For a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesseth*"
 - (2) Matt. 6: 19 - 21; Luke 10: 40 - 42
3. This man forgot that the day would come when he would need something besides corn, grain and money.

VI. HE WAS A FOOL BECAUSE OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD ETERNITY:

1. He lived as IF there were no eternity.
2. He lived as IF this life were all.
3. He lived as though he had a perpetual lease on life.
 - (1) We have our possessions, but they are only a trust from God -- I Tim. 6:7
 - (2) We must use our blessings in this life, or lose all in the next -- I Tim. 6: 17- 19; Matt. 6: 19 - 21; Luke 16:11

V. HE WAS A FOOL BECAUSE OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD HEAVEN:

1. Heaven is a real place -- John 14: 1 - 6
2. How foolish to turn down God's offer of a home FOREVER where there will be no tears or sorrow -- Rev. 21:4
3. What is your attitude toward heaven?
 - (1) Do you want to go there when you die?
 - (2) Are you making preparation now so you will be prepared when you die?
 - (3) Are you one God calls a FOOL?

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