

Selective Hearing

Luke 12

Selective hearing

Choose or reject information at will



I. The Listener's Problem, 13

- Distracted by content and style? Ezk.33
- Sermon fitter?
- Brotherly hatred?
- Did not examine himself? Ac.2:37 . . . 5:33
- Preoccupied with inheritance? Jn.6:15...26
- Thought hearing is enough? Ja.1
- No urgency for soul? 13:25...
- Tunnel vision?

“Cheater!” || “Covetous!”

So easy to see brother's faults; not own.

I. The Listener's Problem, 13

II. The Listener's Parable,
16-21

- Prosperity, 16. Lk.18:24-27
- Possessions have needs, 16-17. Lk.14:16-20
- Preoccupied with work, possessions, success
- Personal pronouns, 17-19.
- Plans only for present, temporal things, 18-19.
- Pleasure, 18-19: good things / many years...
- Protective, 19.
- Proud, 16-19. Talks to himself, about himself.

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 - God introduces new consideration

Rich man:

“I have many goods,
many years;
live it up.”

God:

“This night it’s over.”
The greatest loser.
Ps.14:1; Ja.1:10

- If this rich man had come to Jesus, what would He tell him? [18:18-23]
- This rich man was even worse than RYR – (RYR wanted God and money...).

I. The Listener's Problem, 13

II. The Listener's Parable, 16-21

III. **The Listener's Peril,**
14-15

14: Jesus excludes brother from conversation

1. Wrong view of Jesus
and gospel soured everything.

- Is Jesus “not a judge”? V.58.
 - Wants Jesus to be his miracle-genie
 - Ex.2:14
- Is Jesus “not an arbitrator”? Divider.
 - No Savior?
 - Even if brother is sinner...so is this man.

14: Jesus excludes brother from conversation

2. Wrong view of soul.

- Focuses on here, not hereafter.
 - Jesus describes the man his questioner wants to become (16-21)
 - What direction attracts him?

14: Jesus excludes brother from conversation

3. Wrong view of brother.

- Satan's distraction. Gn.4...
- Rich man resembles Nabal. 1 Sm.25
 - Innocent in getting
 - Greedy in keeping
 - Deadly in hoarding

14: Jesus excludes brother from conversation

4. Wrong view of riches.

- Epicureans (1 Co.15:32)
- Some covet by . . .
 - Squeezing possessions too tightly.
 - Seeking for more and more.

15: Jesus exposes the dangers of his wrong turn

- YOU take heed (be alert / on guard) 18:24
- YOU beware: be a sentinel; 'look out!'
- Covetousness: greedy desire for more.
 - More he got, more he wanted
 - Self·ish Child·ish
 - Beware 'all' covetousness (ASV)

15: Jesus exposes the dangers of his wrong turn

- YOU take heed (be alert / on guard) 18:24
- YOU beware: be a sentinel; 'look out!'
- Covetousness: greedy desire for more.
 - His goal is NOT...
 1. Salvation, spiritual growth.
 2. Set good example, save family...
 3. Heaven

15: Jesus explains purpose of life

- YOUR LIFE...not based on abundance of things you possess

15-16: Jesus expands lesson for benefit of all

- 14: He said to “him”
- 15: He said to “them” (16)
 - Man becomes object lesson for others

Summary

14: Jesus excludes brother from conversation

15: Jesus exposes the dangers of wrong turn

15: Jesus explains purpose of life.

15-16: Jesus expands lesson for benefit of all

Reminders

1. Lord does not condemn farmer for making a living, good profits, or setting goals ... but for **money mania**.
2. We know people by company they keep. Also true of words. 1 Co.6:9-10
3. Worldliness is misery to the thoughtful.

How Much Land Does a Man Need? – Tolstoy