

Parables About
the Upside-Down
Nature of Heaven's
Kingdom (3)

How (and What) the

Parables of Jesus

Help Us See

Lesson 9

"Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "Fool!" (Luke 12:19-20)

What is "the good life"? Take a few moments to think about that question. How would *most* people you know answer it? How would *you* answer it were it not for your knowledge of and relationship with Jesus?

What is "the good life"? That's not a modern question; people have been theorizing and experimenting in search of "the good life" for thousands of years. Take a look at [Ecclesiastes 2:1-11](#).

- What did "the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem" ([Eccl 1:1](#)) do in search of "the good life"?
- What conclusion did he reach as a result of his search?

"Remember That You in Your Lifetime Received Your Good Things..."

Take the time to carefully read these "upside-down" parables (and their surrounding context) that have much to teach us about "the good life." **What do they help us see?**

- The parable of the foolish farmer ([Luke 12:13-21](#)) -
- The parable of the rich man and Lazarus ([Luke 16:19-31](#)) -



For Next Week...

We'll conclude our investigation of parables revolving around the **upside-down nature** of heaven's kingdom. Want a sneak peek? Take the time to thoughtfully read the parable of the dishonest manager in [Luke 16:1-9](#). Once you have, look at it through the "kingdom of heaven" lens we've been spending so much time studying. How did Jesus' parable encourage an "upside-down" way of looking at life (then and now)?