

"For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them." Proverbs 1:32 KJV

The rich young ruler turned from Christ back to his wealth. It was a conscious choice. Men who amass wealth come to realize, sooner or later, you can't take it with you. They spend millions to prolong life just a bit longer, but in the end, death claims all. *"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."* Time and humanity are exchanged for eternity and God's Judgment. Many men have scabbled and clawed to amass wealth, only to have it stolen, or to find that their allotted time cut short. Jesus told this parable: *"The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought*



within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?' And he said, 'This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.' And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.' But God said unto him, 'Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?'" Faith is the currency of Heaven. *"The trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."* Gold is worthless by comparison! Gold is paving material in Heaven *"That great city, the holy Jerusalem's twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it cometh by hearing the... Word of God; it is the gift of God."* God offers Eternal Life through faith in His Word, but men reject it, because they want to feel worthy. What could a man possibly offer God in place of the Life of His only begotten Son? It is ludicrous to think you could do better than God, but men still falsely believe, and foolishly pretend that it is possible. They foolishly deny God's Word while standing in the center of Creation. *"The heavens declare the glory of God; day unto day uttereth speech."* For all the power men have over other men, they cannot even control the length of their own life. *"Which of you by taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?"* In the realm of eternity they are powerless – less than peasants – doomed to eternal punishment with no hope of escape! *"If the word spoken by angels was steadfast...how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?"*

The wealth of fools will blind the mind,
To gifts from God the humble find,
For when the grave their bodies seal,
They'll know eternity is real. ~CGP

For all the wealth a man may amass, there is no caste system in the grave. You cannot buy your way out! Death is Eternity's doorway. You step through it into Heaven, or Hell, determined by your choices concerning God's Word. Believe it, obey it, and live forever, or deny it, reject it, and die forever. There is no alternative!

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Proverbs 16:25 KJV