



November 5, 2023

## Consider the Lilies

Luke 12:13-34

---

### ***Beware/be on your guard against greed: 15***

Greed, the bully impulse for seeking more than you need, and its ubiquitous pull: 15

The antimatter of generosity: 21

Obsessing over the faster lane in congested traffic

### ***Do not be anxious/afraid: 22,29,32***

Which is better: hope disappointed or fear relieved?

The fact of the goodness of God as center

The misguided fear of falling out of view: Our Father knows we need such things: 30

### ***Consider the ravens and the lilies: 24,27***

Trusting in God's visible track record all around us

Are we deists at heart?

Christ holding all creation together: **Colossians 1:17**

Trusting in His heart toward you: "how much more": 24,28

### ***Seek first His Kingdom instead of seeking food and drink: 29,31***

It is good to be responsible: see Paul's admonition in **2 Thessalonians 3:10**

Seeking in the sense of "being consumed with" (paired with "worry" in 29)

The kingdom of God: *where God's way has its way*

Prioritize (what you believe to be) God's way in the moment even if it puts at risk your stuff

These things will be added unto you: the principle of push/pull

Relationships, babies, promotions, break-throughs

### ***Sell your possessions, give to the needy, invest in heaven: 33***

An example of the "seek first the kingdom of God" principle

Instead of "self-first", this is an "others before me" model: see **Philippians 2:3**

Investing stuff either in a CD (certificate of deposit) or a DC (divine confluence)

### ***Where your treasure is, there will be your heart: 34***

Treasure: what you have actually accumulated and what you are accumulating

The best investment: accumulated actions of love

When it comes to stuff: Neither poverty nor riches: **Proverbs 30:8-9**