

"Take Your Ease?"

by Don Hooton

"And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink, and be merry. " (Luke 12:19).

These famous words from the rich man are recorded to remind us he was not just rich, he was a rich fool. As a farmer he was no fool at all. He was so successful that he built bigger and bigger barns. And we can't call him "unspiritual" per se because he spoke to his eternal soul and reasoned with it. But what was foolish was his timing. He thought he had "Many years" but God said he had "this night."

You see, the rich man's foolishness was the ease with which he approached his eternity. He "took his ease" and with it, bartered away his life. The lesson is: we should never tell our soul "take your ease". As Vance Havner might say, "God does not give the soul a vacation- he gives it a vocation."

"Take it easy" might be today's nice expression we offer to hope for our friends joy and peace. And that's fine. But if we're talking about the soul, it is bad advice. What advice is good for the soul is, *"And knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed" (Romans 13:11).* So if we will lull our souls to ease in the trek of life which God has called us, a night may come where God may require of us more. So do not take your ease in spiritual matters---awake and serve.