



Keeping UP Won't Fill You Up

Jesus doesn't drop rules, He drops reality

Luke 12:16-21(NIV): "And he told them this parable: 'The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.' ' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

The Bible isn't about rules, it's about revelation.

Chasing more leaves you empty—but giving more makes you whole.

Proverbs 1:19(ERV): This is what happens to those who are greedy. Whatever they get destroys them."

John D. Rockefeller

- By age 33, Rockefeller had made his first million.
- By 43, he controlled 90% of the U.S. oil industry.
- At his peak, he was the richest man in modern history, net worth over \$400 billion.
- Miserable and dying
- Meningitis
- Pneumonia
- Hookworm
- Polio
- Yellow fever
- *This was America's first biomedical research institute.*
Spelman College, University of Chicago
- After turning to generosity, Rockefeller's health dramatically improved.
- He lived not just a little longer—but until age 98.

Proverbs 11:25(GW): "A generous person will be made rich, and whoever satisfies others will himself be satisfied."

When Rockefeller stopped chasing control and started living generously, he didn't just improve the world — he became fully alive.

Science of Giving:

Psychology calls it the *paradox of generosity*: when people regularly give, they report greater happiness, lower depression, and even longer life expectancy (Notre Dame study, 2013).

Giving activates the brain's reward system

MRI studies show that generosity lights up your brain.

Giving literally rewires your brain for joy.

Malachi 3:8-10(NLT): "Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?' You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, 'I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!'"

All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.