

THE PARABLE OF
THE
RICH
FOOL
LUKE 12:16-21

"In the mean time, when so **many thousands of *the people*** had gathered together that they were trampling one another, he began to say to ***his disciples*** first..." (1a).

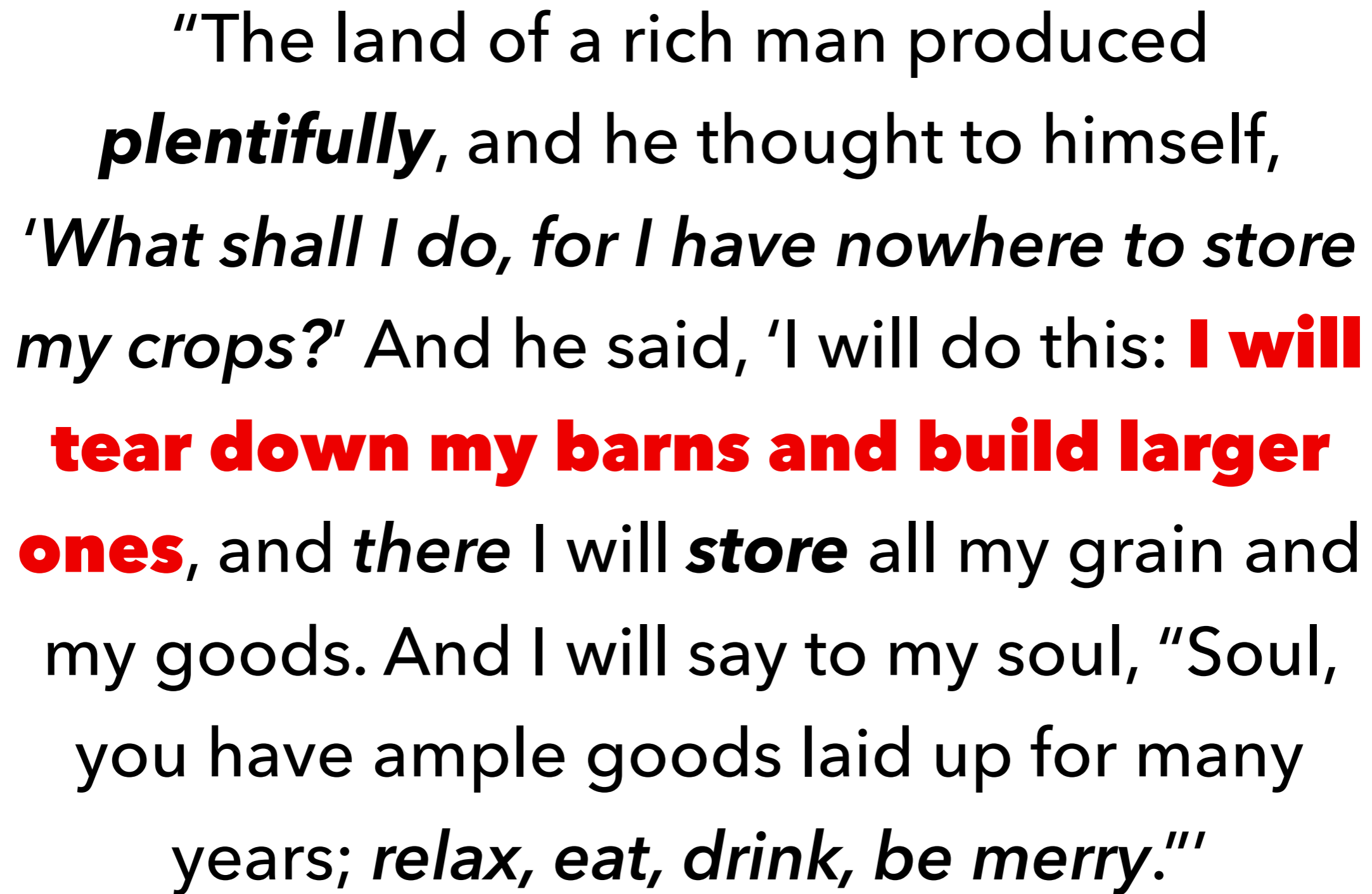
"***Someone in the crowd*** said..." (13a).

"Teacher, **tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me**" (13b).

The background of the entire slide is a dense, overlapping pattern of US one hundred dollar bills, scattered and slightly out of focus, creating a textured, greenish-tan background.

“But he said to him, ‘Man, who made *me* a **judge** or **arbitrator** over you?’” (14).

“And he said to them, ‘Take care, and **be on your guard against all covetousness**, for **a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things which he possesses**’” (15).

The background of the entire slide is a dense, overlapping pattern of US one hundred dollar bills, scattered and slightly blurred, creating a rich, textured appearance of wealth.

“The land of a rich man produced ***plentifully***, and he thought to himself, *‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’* And he said, ‘I will do this: **I will tear down my barns and build larger ones**, and *there* I will **store** all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; *relax, eat, drink, be merry.*””

5 THINGS THAT MADE THIS RICH MAN A FOOL (LK. 12:16-21)

1. **THINKING ABOUT THE GIFTS, BUT FORGETTING ABOUT THE GIVER.**

MALACHI 3:8,9

“Will man rob God? Yet **you are robbing me**. But you say, ‘*How have we robbed you?*’ **In your tithes and contributions**. You are cursed with a curse, for **you are robbing me**, the whole nation of you.”

1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21

"Both **riches and honor come from you**, and you rule over all... But *who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly?* For **all things come from you**, and **of your own have we given you**... O Jehovah our God, **all this abundance** that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name **comes from your hand and is all your own**" (12,14,16).

5 THINGS THAT MADE THIS RICH MAN A FOOL (LK. 12:16-21)

**THINKING ABOUT HIMSELF,
BUT FORGETTING ABOUT
HIS NEIGHBORS.**

MARK 12:31

"You shall love your neighbor *as yourself*."

MATTHEW 25:31-46

"Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to *one of the least of these*, you did not do it to *me*."

**THINKING ABOUT HIS
BODY, BUT FORGETTING
ABOUT HIS SPIRIT.**

MATTHEW 10:28

"And do not fear those who kill the *body* but cannot kill the *soul*. Rather **fear him who can destroy both *soul and body in hell.*"**

4.

**THINKING ABOUT HIS
WEALTH, BUT FORGETTING
ABOUT HIS POVERTY.**

JOHN 6:27

“Do not work for the food that *perishes*, but for **the food that endures to eternal life**, which the Son of Man will give to you..”

1. THINKING ABOUT HIS **LIBERTY**,
BUT FORGETTING ABOUT
HIS **ACCOUNTABILITY**.

"Soul, **relax**, eat, drink, be merry..." (Lk. 12:19).

He was *distracted* chasing "**the good life**."

He could **retire** and *go travel the world!*

He could *kick back* and **take it easy!**

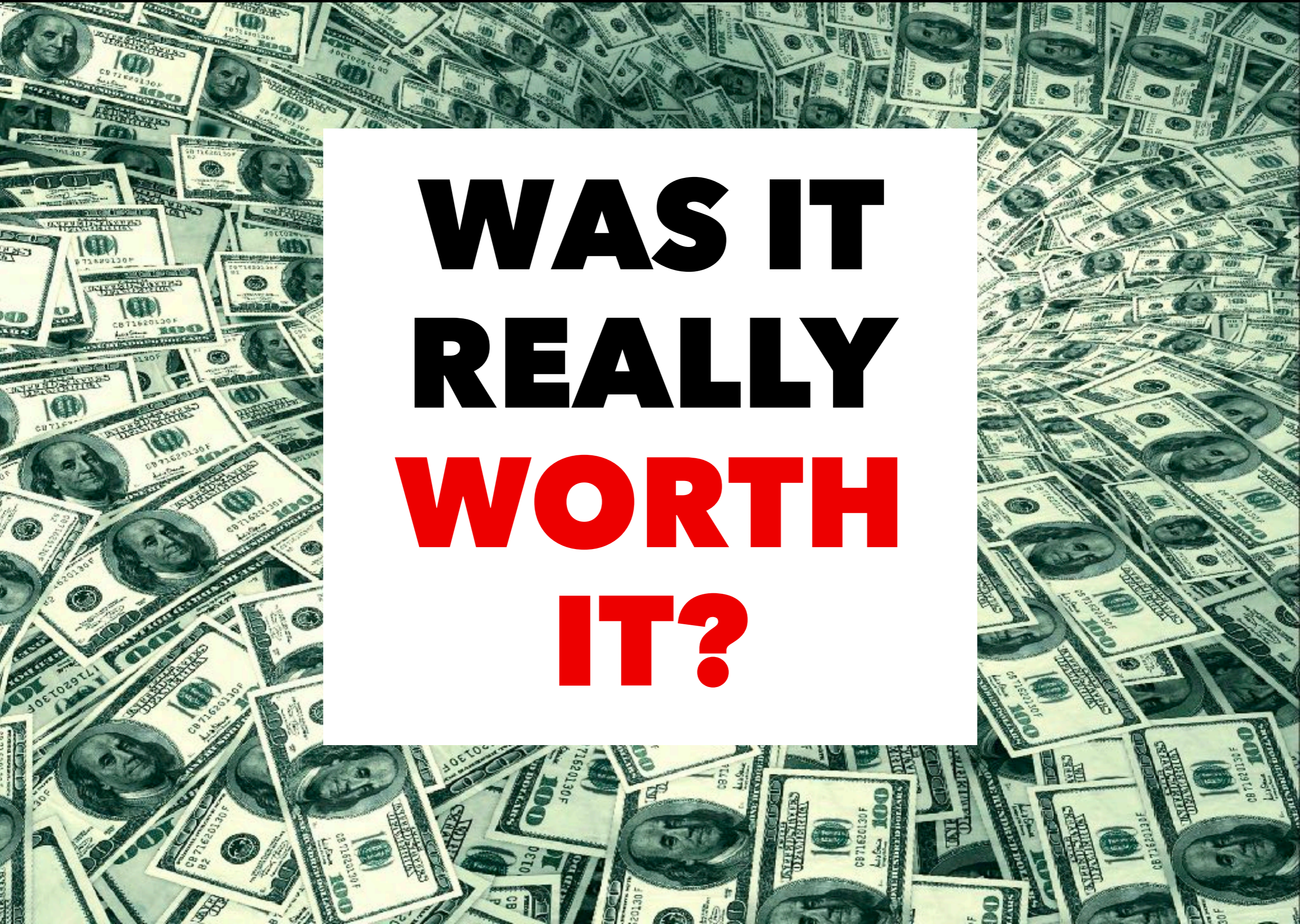
NO BURDENS!

NO RESPONSIBILITY!

NO PROBLEM!

THE UNDERLYING QUESTION

**WAS IT
REALLY
WORTH
IT?**



WAS IT REALLY WORTH IT?

LUKE 12:20

*"You fool! **This night your soul is required of you**, and *the things you have prepared, whose will they be?*"*

MARK 8:36

*"What does it profit a person to **gain the whole world**, and **forfeit his soul**?"*

WAS IT REALLY WORTH IT?

LUKE 12:21

"So is the one who *lays up treasure for himself* and **is not rich toward God.**"

MATTHEW 6:19-21

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth... but **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**... For where your treasure is there your heart will be also."

WAS IT REALLY WORTH IT?

DEUTERONOMY 28:47,48

"Because **you did not serve Jehovah your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart, because of the abundance of all things**, therefore you shall serve your enemies whom Jehovah will send against you, in hunger and thirst, in nakedness, and lacking everything. And he will put a yoke of iron on your neck until he has destroyed you."

IS IT
REALLY
WORTH
IT?