

WORD FROM THE PASTOR

RICH IN GOD'S SIGHT



My dear brothers and sisters, the liturgical texts suggest us to reflect on our perception about the material goods. Yes, of course, we need to ensure our daily life. But the real problem is elsewhere: we put a lot of effort into accumulating wealth, we show ingenuity, we impose fatigue that ruins health, the union of families, and the education of children. Material comfort is good, but if our life is not filled with love, it lacks the essential.

In one of his homilies, Pope Francis told us that "cupidity is idolatry." He recommends us to strive with the ability to share, to give and to be given to others. A man asks Jesus to be the arbiter in his inheritance problems. Jesus refuses to be judged in this case. He took the opportunity

to say that there are riches that we will not take to paradise.

To better understand, He tells a parable. He talks to us about **a rich man "whose domain was well re-reported"**; His biggest concern is that there is not enough space to store all this harvest. What Jesus denounces in this story is **not riches but attachment to riches**. Elsewhere, He tells us that it is very difficult for a man attached to riches to enter the kingdom of heaven. Pope Francis stated that **this immoderate attachment to riches is idolatry**; we are in the face of two gods: **"The Living God... and the Golden God in which I put my security"**. **Never forget that the earth and its riches were created by God.**

For Jesus, the only happiness that lasts is the meeting with God, it is to be **"rich in God's sight"**. **We are all rich in the riches of God, in this joy, His love, His forgiveness.** We can even offer these riches to others. We all know men, women and even children who have given the best of themselves to help others have a better life.

We are therefore all invited to build the world and our common home not on the fortune of a few but on the justice that inspires love. So, more than ever, we welcome this call to conversion: **"Today, let us not close our hearts but listen to the voice of the Lord."**

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