

The Rich Farmer

Here is a farmer who is very rich. The farmer is rich because his soil is rich. And his corn grows faster than anyone else's. And higher than anyone else's. And at harvest time he has much more of it than anyone else! Lucky man.



This year he has so much corn that his old barn can't hold it all. It is bursting at the seams.

He doesn't think to share all his good things with others. 'No problem', says the farmer.

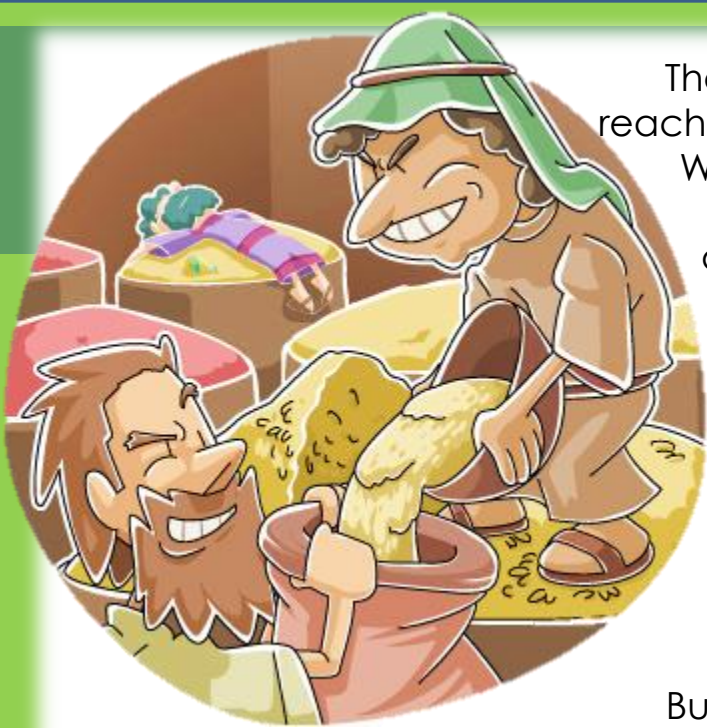
'I will pull it down and build a bigger one. Then next year I will be rich enough to take life easy.' So he builds a bigger barn.

But when harvest comes round again, the new barn is not big enough. The greedy farmer has planted more corn than before. And carrots too.

He doesn't think to share all his good things with others. 'No problem', says the farmer. 'I will build an even bigger, better barn. Then next year I will be richer still and then I can really enjoy myself.' So he builds a bigger, better barn.

But at harvest time, even the bigger, better barn is not big enough. Again the farmer has planted too much corn, too many carrots. He doesn't think to share all his good things with others. This time, the farmer says to himself. 'I will build the biggest, grandest barn the world has ever seen. And then I shall be so rich, I need never work again!'





The barn he builds reaches up to the sky. When it is finished the farmer sighs a great big sigh. 'Tomorrow I will gather in the harvest and then at last I shall begin to enjoy myself. I know! I'll have a party.'

But that very night he dies in his sleep. Just like that! The birds eat his corn, the rabbits dig up his carrots and his cabbages go to seed. The big barn stands empty and the rich farmer never does get to enjoy his money. Poor man.

Jesus says 'How silly it is for someone to spend his whole life storing up riches for themselves. To God, they are really a poor person'



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