

Menucha is a very special place ...
With roots in many places.

This is the long lost one.



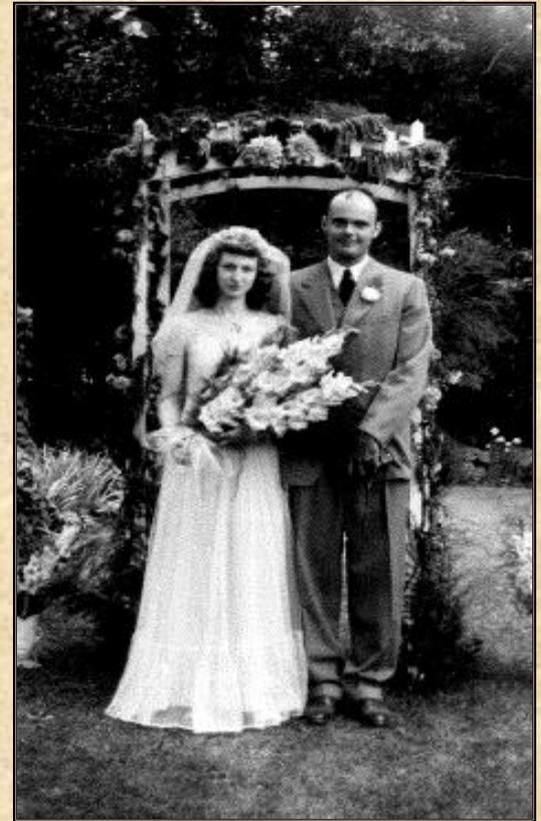
Roll Congregation circa 1931



The IN-KY Connection



August 11, 1946



Roll Congregation circa 1971



GET RICH!

Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy



Mark Drabenstott
Menucha 2009

QUESTION OF THE DAY

True or False?

God wants me to be rich.

Economic times have rarely been *this* uncertain.



Many Wall Street icons are now gone
A stunning loss of financial prowess for America.



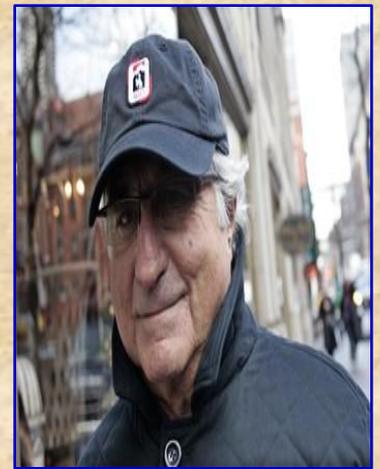
Greed has never been more reviled –
Nor more on display.



Was James writing about the 21st century?

5 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. 4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. 5 You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.

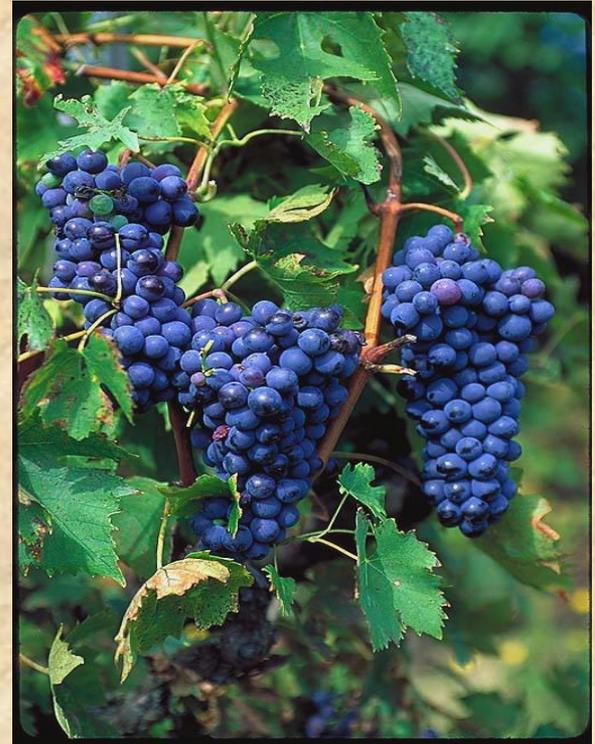
James 5:1-5 RSV



This is the
economy we know.



God has a
different economy.



WHICH ONE ARE YOU LIVING IN?

How best to live in the *spiritual* economy?



It operates on very different principles.
We must discern and LIVE the difference!

Lessons for living in the spiritual economy.

- **Get rich — *toward God!***
Know your economic imperative.
- **Spiritual economics 101**
Beware mixing economic principles!
- **Invest in the spiritual economy**
Master the two secrets to success.
- **Manage debt God's way**
Avoid spiritual bankruptcy.
- **Use wealth wisely**
Give back—before it's too late.



1. GET RICH!

God wants YOU to be rich!

But this...



Or this?



1. **GET RICH — TOWARD GOD!**

God DOES want YOU to be rich!

*But He measures riches
in very different ways.*

Paul's Exhortation for Today's Crisis



17 As for the **rich** in this world, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on **uncertain riches** but on God who **richly** furnishes us with everything to enjoy.

18 They are to do good, to be **rich** in good deeds, liberal and generous, 19 thus laying up for themselves a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life which is life indeed.

1 Tim 6:17-19 RSV

“riches”: Greek *ploutos*, from the root *pletho* which means to be full.

Paul's Exhortation for Today's Crisis

Teach and urge these duties. 3 If any one teaches otherwise ... wrangling among men who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, **imagining that godliness is a means of gain.** ... 6 There is great gain in godliness with contentment; 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world; 8 but if we have food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 9 But those who desire to be **rich** fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and hurtful desires that **plunge men into ruin and destruction.**



1 Tim 6:2-9 RSV

Paul's Exhortation for Today's Crisis

10 **For the love of money is the root of all evils**; it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced their hearts with many pangs.

11 But as for you, man of God, shun all this; aim at righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. 12 **Fight the good fight of {the} faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called** when you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

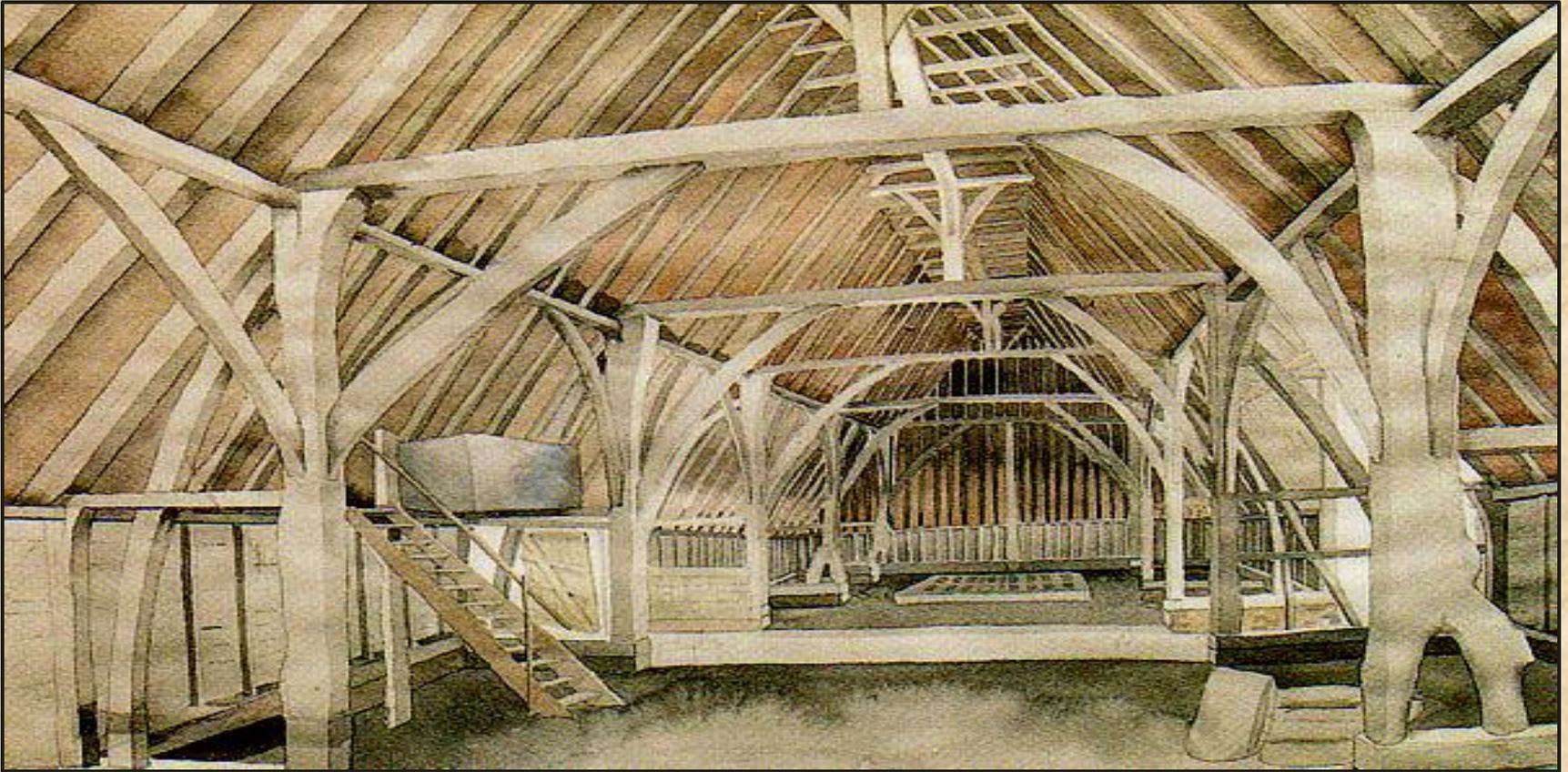
1 Tim. 6:10-13 RSV



1. **The fight is over the spiritual economy.**
2. **Did Timothy struggle in choosing it?**

Our Economic Imperative

“A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

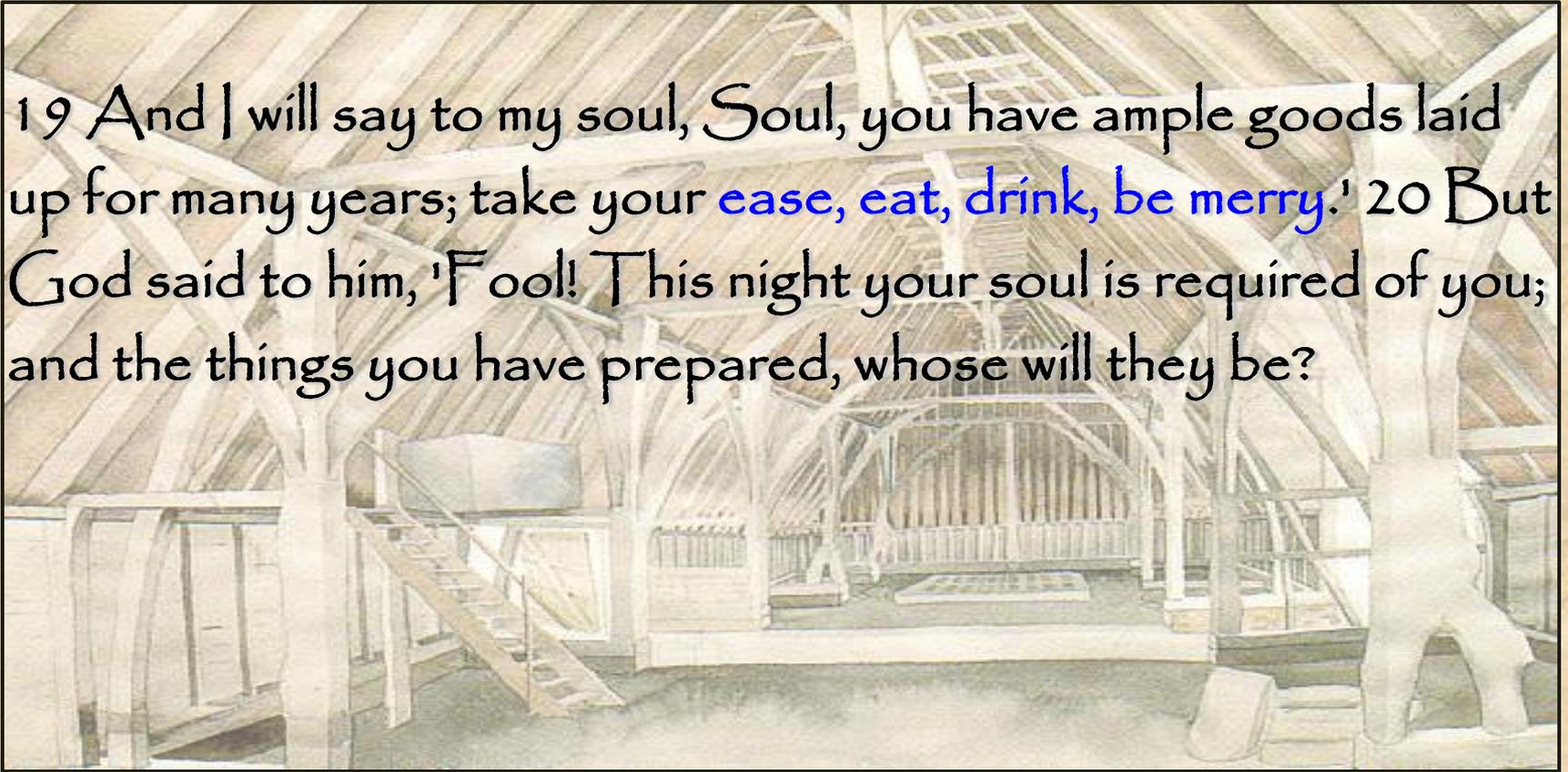


Luke 12:16-18 RSV

Our Economic Imperative

“A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your *ease, eat, drink, be merry.* 20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?



Luke 12:19-20 RSV

Our Economic Imperative

“A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

21 So is he who lays up treasure for himself,
and is **not rich toward God.**”

Luke 12:21 RSV



**GET
RICH** — Toward **GOD!**

Laying Up Treasure: 1

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal,
20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

Matt 6:19-21 RSV



1. Which nest egg do you put **first**?
The 401K or the spiritual account?
2. You must choose!

Laying Up Treasure: 3

24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Matt 6:24 RSV

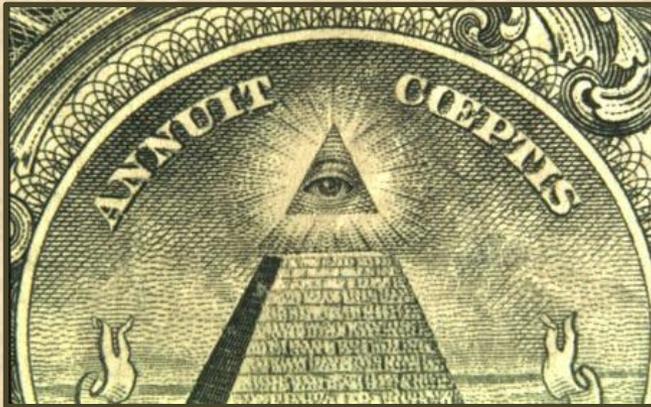


1. You cannot keep two sets of books!
2. Which account do you want to grow?

Laying Up Treasure: 2

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; 23 but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Matt 6:22-23 RSV



1. Greed leads to spiritual blindness.
2. Is your spiritual vision unclouded?

PROVIDENCE FAVORS OUR UNDERTAKINGS (ENDEAVORS)

Heavenly riches are
NOT like earthly riches.



Quantity

- Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. 37 " Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; 38 give, and it will be given to you; *good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.* *Luke 6:36-38*
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, *my cup overflows.* *Ps. 23:5*

Heavenly riches are
NOT like earthly riches.



Quantity

- Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done [will do] great things! ... "The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. 25 I will restore to you the years which the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you. 26 "You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied.

Joel 2:21, 24-25

Heavenly riches are
NOT like earthly riches.



Type

Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a **perishable** wreath, but we an **imperishable**.

1 Cor 9:24-25





I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. & Henceforth there is laid up for me the **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

2 Tim 4:7-8

Incredible Heavenly Treasure



Riches...

Of his **kindness** and **forbearance** and **patience**
(Rom. 2:4)

Of his **glory** (Rom. 9:23; Eph 3:16)

Of the **glory of this mystery**, which is Christ in you
(Col 1:27)

Of **assured understanding and the knowledge of**
God's mystery, of Christ (Col. 2:2)

Of the **wisdom and knowledge of God** (Rom. 11:33)

Of his **grace** (Eph. 1:7)

Of his **glorious inheritance** (Eph. 1:18)

Incredible Heavenly Treasure



Immeasurable Riches...

Of his **grace** (Eph 2:7)

Unsearchable riches...

Of **Christ** (Eph. 3:8)

Hannah's Prayer

7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low, he also exalts.

8 He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.

9 "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones;
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness;
for not by might shall a man prevail.

10 The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.

The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king,
and exalt the power of his anointed (1 Sam 2:7-10 RSV).



Moses' Proclamation



7 Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.' 18 **You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth;** that he may confirm his covenant which he swore to your fathers, as at this day.

Deut 8:17-19 RSV



Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gets understanding, for the gain from it is better than gain from silver and its profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

Prov. 3:13-15 RSV



Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. **She is a tree of life** to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

Prov. 3:13-18 RSV

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