

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Thursday 20th October 2022

By Revd John Ohen

The Economy.

The state of the economy remains cause for concern. Our last Chancellor remains the second shortest lived-in modern memory and the PM seems to be facing the same faith. According to the well-known song, "Money makes the world go round ". Do you agree? Money and wealth have certainly always been idols which human beings bow down before and give homage to Greed, financial greed especially, is a longstanding human affliction. Some will argue that financial crises and recessions worldwide have their roots in greed, avarice, and insensitivity to the needs of others either here or abroad. When asked are you your brother's keeper? The rich may answer "No, as this is a dog-eat dog world, each man for himself."

This may be like the man who approached Jesus with a view of settling family dispute about inheritance. Luke 12:13-21 "Teacher, bid my brother to divide the inheritance with me" (v.13), Jesus approaches the issue dynamically and literally through a parable. It is important to point out that the man was a very rich man, like Bill Gate, Richard Branson, or Lord Alan Sugar. Each one of them worth billions of pounds or dollars. The man in this parable is so rich that he has no room to store his goods (V. 17). The bottom line is that his attitude or philosophy of life such as "take life easy, eat, drink, and be merry". His life is built on sand, although he has cash and property wealth, but death was round the corner for we don't know when our time is up. God has the final say and when he says out, time is up, that's it.

Talking about another parable involving family and money, can we recognize something of ourselves in the elder Son, in the parable of the prodigal son? The tendency to congratulate ourselves and make comparison with others. The senior brother was living with the father, serving him but he wasn't close to him. His heart was tinted with resentment, particularly towards his brother, and he allowed it to boil up into anger directed at his father. We all need to be aware of such behaviour, as it can be dangerous.

Bible passage: Luke 12:13-21

Prayer: Lord God may your unfailing love be our comfort. Let your compassion come to us that we may live, for your law is our delight.