

“Take it Easy”

Luke 12:19

Introduction:

- A. Became the rich fool’s philosophy (Note: NIV).
- B. Was once Israel philosophy (Amos 6:1).
- C. Could be our national motto.
 - 1. Little satisfaction in real work — obsessed with recreation.
 - 2. Easiest and most convenient way sought — quality suffers..
 - 3. Accept as little responsibility possible — only when forced upon us.
- D. “Take it easy” philosophy often reflected in several aspects of life:

Discussion:

I. In Our General Behavior.

- A. Too many want to “call the tune” without “paying the piper.”
 - 1. Want government benefits without paying taxes.
 - 2. Want harvest without sowing and reaping.
 - 3. Want company benefits without benefitting company.
 - 4. Want employee loyalty without employee benefits.
- B. Too much “ease” is not good for individual or nation.
 - 1. God made man to be busy working. (Gen. 2:15; 3:19).
 - 2. God expects people to work more than being idle. (Ex. 30:9).
 - 3. God expects able people work for living — not steal or free-load (Eph. 4:28; 2 Thess. 3:10).
 - 4. God warns of evil associated with idleness. (Cf. 1 Tim 5:13; 2 Thess. 3:11).

II. In Our Home Behavior.

- A. Most marital stem from irresponsibility — taking it easy.
 - 1. Want to act “free” while “bound.”
 - 2. Want to share benefits and pleasures, without sharing possessions and responsibilities.
- B. Many problem children caused by parent’s “take it easy” philosophy.
 - 1. Easy to become a parent — real work to be a parent.
 - 2. Easy to raise a child — real work to rear a child.
 - 3. Easy to release a child — real work to restrain him. (Cf. Prov. 29:15; 1 Sam. 3:13).
 - 4. Easy to chart easiest course for children — real work to teach character. (Cf. Rom. 5:3,4)

III. In Our Religious Behavior.

- A. Modern religion goes all out to make it as easy as possible.
 - 1. Believe what you want, join church of choice, worship as please.
 - 2. Lower divine standards to attract crowds and revenue.
- B. Religion that demands very little.
 - 1. Seeks crown without cross. (Cf. Matt. 16:24).
 - 2. Like to be counted faithful without being faithful. (Cf. Acts 20:7; Heb. 10:25)
 - 3. “Minimum Daily Requirement” religion — no second miles.
 - 4. Security without sanctification. (1 Cor. 10:12; Heb. 3:12; John 15:2,6).
 - 5. Want “fulness of Christ” with half-hearted service. (Cf. Rev. 3:15-17).

Conclusion:

- A. What if other had taken it easy?
 - 1. Jesus when it came time to die.
 - 2. Paul when it came time to preach to Gentiles (cf. 2 Cor. 11:23,24).
 - 3. Peter and John when threatened (cf. Acts 5:29).
- B. Christian life no bed of roses — but reward is so great (cf. Rom. 8:13).