

Rich in the Sight of God

Monday, 22 October 2018



G. W. F. Hegel is well known for his Dialectics. Among his many writings is this text, "The process of thinking (loving, living) entails a form of negotiation, and thus a degree of self-displacement, so that self-examined mental life requires a move away from solipsism and self-preoccupation". Why are we required to move away from solipsism?

Luke 12:16-21 provides the answer. The rich man in the parable was so preoccupied with himself that 'God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?"' So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.' Poverty of the self!

Now, to be poor of the self doesn't mean to neglect oneself. It means to appreciate oneself as part of the whole. That is, we belong to God's family; we are stewards of His gift of life. We are accountable to Him, to others for how we live. This sense of accountability draws us out of ourselves, heals us of solipsism and places us on God's path to true riches.

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