



■ † Twelfth Sunday of St. Matthew

**Whoever relies on God alone  
and cleaves to Him  
with all his heart is rich in God\***

“**A rich man** shall hardly enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.” (St. Matthew 19:23).

Here is meant a rich man who sees in his own self many methods and many powers unto his own prosperity.

But as soon as one who has many possessions cuts off all attachment to them, extinguishes within himself all reliance on them, and ceases to see them as his substantial support, then in his heart he is the same as one who possesses nothing—for thus is the road to the kingdom open. Riches are then not only a hindrance, but a help, for they provide the means for charitable works.

**Riches are not the misfortune, but rather reliance upon them and attachment to them.**

This thought can be generalized in this way: **whoever relies on something and is attached to something is rich in that thing.**

**Whoever relies on God alone and cleaves to Him with all his heart is rich in God.** Whoever relies on something else turns his heart to it instead of God—such a person is rich in this other thing, but not in God.

**From this it follows that he who is not rich in God has no entrance into the kingdom of God.**



Here are meant such things as birth, connections, mind, rank, circle of activities and so forth.



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(\*) St. Theophan the Recluse, *Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God.*