**The Fox and the Grapes** 11.56

Driven by hunger, a fox tried to reach some grapes hanging high on the vine. Although she leaped with all her strength, she couldn’t manage to reach the grapes. As she went away, the fox remarked, ‘Oh, you aren’t even ripe yet! I don’t need any sour grapes.’

OR

The Mouse, the Fox, and the Grapes A fox saw a cluster of grapes hanging from a trellis and wanted to eat them, but the grapes were too high and she could not find a way to get at them. A mouse saw the fox and grinned as he said, ‘You’ll have to go hungry!’ The fox didn’t want a mouse to have the last word, so she replied, ‘Those grapes are sour!’

The fable indicts wicked people who refuse to listen to reason.

People who speak disparagingly of things that they cannot attain would do well to apply this instructive little story to their own lives.

***The Man and the Golden Eggs*** 12.32

A man had a hen that laid a golden egg for him each and every day. The man was not satisfied with this daily profit, and instead he foolishly grasped for more. Expecting to find a treasure inside, the man slaughtered the hen. When he found that the hen did not have a treasure inside her after all, he remarked to himself, ‘While chasing after hopes of a treasure, I lost the profit I held in my hands!’

The fable shows that people often grasp for more than they need and thus lose the little they have. Much want’s more and looses all.