

Insights from Luke

#63: "Wealth Management"

Luke 16:1-13

**Luke 16:1a**

"<sup>1</sup> Now He was also saying to the disciples...."

**Luke 16:1b-2**

"<sup>1b</sup> There was a rich man who had a manager, and this manager was reported to him as squandering his possessions. <sup>2</sup> And he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an accounting of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'"

"It is depressing even if you are a crook."

**Luke 16:3**

"<sup>3</sup> The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig; I am ashamed to beg.'"

**Luke 16:4**

"<sup>4</sup> I know what I shall do, so that when I am removed from the management people will welcome me into their homes."

**Luke 16:5-7**

“<sup>5</sup> And he summoned each one of his master’s debtors, and he began saying to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup> And he said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ And he said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ <sup>7</sup> Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ And he said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’”

**Luke 16:8**

“<sup>8</sup> And his master praised the unrighteous manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind than the sons of light.”

Use your worldly wealth to  
make everlasting friends.  
(16:9)

Be faithful with what you do  
possess so that you can  
receive something far better.  
(6:10-12)

Do not allow riches to  
become your God.  
(16:13)

**Luke 16:8-9**

“<sup>8</sup> And his master praised the unrighteous manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind than the sons of light. <sup>9</sup> And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the wealth of unrighteousness, so that when it fails, they will receive you into the eternal dwellings.”

**Lesson #1**

Literally, “they [i.e., the friends you have made with your worldly wealthy] will receive you into eternal dwellings.”

**Luke 6:10-12**

“<sup>10</sup> He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. <sup>11</sup> Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own?”

**Lesson #2**

Be faithful with what you have so that you can receive something even better.

**Luke 6:13**

“<sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

**Lesson #3**

Do not let money and material things become your master.

**The central point of Jesus’ use of this parable was not because the steward cheated, but because he exercised foresight into the future.**

A right use of our money in this world, from right motives, will be for our benefit in the world to come. It will not justify us. It will not bear the severity of God's judgment, any more than other good works. But it shall be an evidence of our grace, which shall befriend our souls.

**Let's take an honest  
gut check of what we  
really are giving to the  
Kingdom.**

**Keep in mind that  
mammon (wealth or riches)  
refers to all of our material  
possessions.**

**The words of Christ are  
tougher than Moses' words  
in the Book of the Law.**

One instance among thousands  
Of the uncertainty of human life  
And the instability of earthly possessions  
And enjoyments.  
Born to ample property  
He for several years experienced  
A distressing reverse of fortune  
And no sooner was he restored to  
His former affluence  
Than it pleased Divine Providence  
To withdraw this together with his life.

READER:  
Be thou taught by this  
To seek those riches which never can fail  
And those pleasures  
Which are at God's right hand  
For evermore  
The gracious gift of God  
And to be enjoyed through faith  
In JESUS CHRIST our Savior.