

Stewardship 09- #02 Our Talent & Treasures

August 16, 2009

- *Steward* simply means manager
- *Stewardship* has to do with what we do with all that God gives to us and has already given us

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

- Nothing we have belongs to us, it was given to us by God and we are to manage it properly
- There are three areas where we are to be faithful stewards:

1) *Talents*

2) *Time*

3) *Treasures*

Luke 19:12-25 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin:

For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man: thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow.

And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow:

Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury?

And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds.

(And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.)

1. Facts about our Talents

a) God gave us our talents to use for Him.

b) We do not all have the same talents, but we all have talents.

c) We may not all have the same amount of talents, but we all have some.

d) God rewards us based on what we do with the talents He gave us, not the ones we don't have or the ones others have.

e) We use our talents for the Lord primarily by serving and helping others, this is called ministry.

f) We use our practical talents in the church by donating them.

2. Facts about our Treasures

1Tim. 6:9-10 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows

- There is nothing inherently wrong with money
- The problem with money comes not from the money, but from our attitude about.
- Let's see what can happen when we have the wrong attitude about money

a) The Wrong Attitude about Money Can Keep You from Serving God

Matt. 6:19-24 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

- Most people don't serve God because they have put importance on something other than God.
- If you put your importance on money you cannot serve God.
- The desire for money over God is usually because we put the importance on this life over eternal life.

b) The Wrong Attitude About Money Brings Many Sorrows

1Tim. 6:6 But godliness with *contentment* is great gain.

- Money cannot buy you peace, contentment and the important things in life
- Trusting in money to bring these things is the surest way to misery.
- One of the leading causes of divorce is disagreement about money.

c) The Wrong Attitude about Money & Possessions Keeps Us from Many Blessings

Pro 11:24-25 There is that scattereth, and yet *increaseth*; and *there is* that withholdeth more than is meet, but *it tendeth* to poverty.

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

2Co 9:6-7 But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also *bountifully*.

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

- God cannot bless a stingy man
- The more we give the more God can bless us
- Just the act of killing our greed and selfishness can bring blessings.
- Problems are a result of disobedience

d) The Wrong Attitude about Money Is This: Everything I Have Is Mine

Psa 24:1 The earth *is the LORD's*, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psa 50:10-11 For every beast of the forest *is mine*, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field *are mine*.

If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world *is mine*, and the fulness thereof.

Job 41:11 Who hath prevented me, that I should repay *him? whatsoever is* under the whole heaven *is mine*.

1Co 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which *are God's*.

- Nothing we have is ours, it all belongs to God
- Most of us have made a God of our own imagination
- The God of the Bible owns everything, including you.
- We are to manage our money and use it the way God wants us to.

e) Everything I have was given me from God

f) If God gave me everything, I ought to give it back to Him

- ill- Pineapple story

g) Giving of my treasures keeps me from being selfish