

# “The Parable of the Shrewd Manager: Making A Little Last Forever”

Scripture: Luke 16:1-13 / Sunday, December 29, 2013



## THE STORY JESUS TOLD (vv. 1-8a):

### The Parable of the Shrewd Manager includes...

- A Devastating \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 1-2): failure or dereliction of duties
- A Self-Preserving \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 3-7):
- An Unexpected \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8)
  - Unrighteous =
  - Shrewdly =

**Why the commendation?** The Master commended the \_\_\_\_\_,  
not the \_\_\_\_\_.

The manager acted in a way that brought \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ to the debtors,  
future \_\_\_\_\_ for himself and a great \_\_\_\_\_ to the master!

## THE POINT OF JESUS' STORY (v. 8b):

### Jesus' Highlights the Actions of Two Groups of People:

- *People of this* \_\_\_\_\_ (*age*): *Psalm 17:13-15; Philippians 3:19*
- *People of the* \_\_\_\_\_: *John 12:36; Ephesians 5:8-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; 1 Peter 2:9*

### In pursuit of their own temporal interests, the “people of this world” often...

- Seek them more \_\_\_\_\_.
- Follow them more \_\_\_\_\_.
- They devise for them more \_\_\_\_\_.

### What was so SHREWD about the manager's solution?

- He had an eye for the \_\_\_\_\_.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ the debtors.
- He demonstrated a time sensitive \_\_\_\_\_. (*See also: Ephesians 5:17*)
- He raised the debtor's \_\_\_\_\_ of the master.

**The Point:** People who know the \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_  
should \_\_\_\_\_ in light of those \_\_\_\_\_.

## THE LESSONS FROM JESUS' STORY (vv. 9-13):

A. A Clear Goal: Temporary resources are ultimately tools to build \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 9)

*Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 4:18*

- **Who** are the ones who “may receive you into the eternal dwellings?” (See *John 14:2-3*)
- **How** can we make such friends? (*Galatians 6:9-10*)

B. An Inescapable Evaluation: Have I made good investments with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_? (vv. 10-12)

*Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Hebrews 11:6*

C. A Revealing Conclusion: Your Investments \_\_\_\_\_ Your \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 13)

*Scriptures: Matthew 6:24*

**Conclusion:** The thoughtful living which Jesus commends requires two parts:

- **Biblical** \_\_\_\_\_: How has God spoken to you through His Word this morning?
- **Obedient** \_\_\_\_\_: How do you believe He is leading you to respond?

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## THE STORY JESUS TOLD (vv. 1-8a):

### The Parable of the Shrewd Manager includes...

- **A Devastating Accusation** (vv. 1-2): failure or dereliction of duties
- **A Self-Preserving Response** (vv. 3-7):
- **An Unexpected Commendation** (v. 8)
  - Unrighteous = morally wrong or unjust
  - Shrewdly = with great thought; of keen and farsighted judgment

**Why the commendation?** The Master commended the ingenuity, not the dishonesty.

The manager acted in a way that brought **joy & relief** to the debtors,  
**future security** for himself and a **great reputation** to the master!

## THE POINT OF JESUS' STORY (v. 8b):

### Jesus' Highlights the Actions of Two Groups of People:

- **People of this world (age):** *Psalm 17:13-15; Philippians 3:19*
- **People of the light:** *John 12:36; Ephesians 5:8-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; 1 Peter 2:9*

### In pursuit of their own temporal interests, the “people of this world” often...

- Seek them more **earnestly**.
- Follow them more **uniformly**.
- They devise for them more **ingeniously**.

### What was so SHREWD about the manager's solution?

- He had an eye for the **future**.
- He **benefitted** the debtors.
- He demonstrated a time sensitive **urgency**. (*See also: Ephesians 5:17*)
- He raised the debtor's **esteem** of the master.

**The Point:** People who know the facts about eternity should act in light of those facts.

## THE LESSONS FROM JESUS' STORY (vv. 9-13):

### A. A Clear Goal: Temporary resources are ultimately tools to build eternal relations. (v. 9)

*Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 4:18*

- **Who** are the ones who “may receive you into the eternal dwellings?” (See *John 14:2-3*)
- **How** can we make such friends? (*Galatians 6:9-10*)

### B. An Inescapable Evaluation: Have I made good investments with God's resources? (vv. 10-12)

*Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Hebrews 11:6*

### C. A Revealing Conclusion: Your Investments Reveal Your Devotion. (v. 13)

*Scriptures: Matthew 6:24*

**Conclusion:** The thoughtful living which Jesus commends requires two parts:

- **Biblical Thinking:** How has God spoken to you through His Word this morning?
- **Obedient Response:** How do you believe He is leading you to respond?