"The Parable of the Shrewd Manager: Making A Little Last Forever"



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

Parable of th	e Shrewd Ma	anager meradesiii		
A Devastatir	g	(vv. 1	-2): failure or der	eliction of duties
A Self-Prese	rving		v. 3-7):	
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THE LESSONS FROM JESUS' STORY	/ (vv. 9-13):
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	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)
•	An Inescapable Evaluation: Have I made good investments with? (vv. 10-12)
	Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Hebrews 11:6
	Scriptures: Matthew 6:24
	Conclusion. The theoretical living subjets leave common de generalization wants.
	Conclusion: The thoughtful living which Jesus commends requires two parts: Biblical: How has God spoken to you through His Word this morning

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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?