

Parable of the Unrighteous Steward

Luke 16

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The Unjust Steward Luke 16

Problems abound in grasping the meaning of this parable.

1st problem – sometimes the story IS the story. It doesn't always require identification of the various 'parts'. Some, like the Sower, do have identification, but others very limited if at all.

One kind of parable is the 'less to more' analogy. If this ... then this is more so...

This parable has been worked over in almost uncounted ways! Most, trying to identify the components / parties.

To me, the larger context allows me to see it in simple terms / application.

Again, this is kind of a 'what do you think' type, although the words are lacking at the beginning.

Larger Context

1-8 – Parable

9-10 – Observation

11-12 – Application

13 - Warning

Larger context

1-8 Parable

9-10 Observation

11-12 - Application

13 – warning – cannot serve two masters ...

Larger Context

1-13 – Parable

14-18 Pharisees upbraided

19f – Rich man & Lazarus

Larger context

1-13 Parable -

16:14-18 – Pharisees – lovers of money – scoffed. WHY the mention of lovers of money? It is their reaction to such.

15-16 Jesus – upbraid for their justifying SELF ...

17 – God's word is eternal –

18 – Divorce – their attitude towards

16:19f – Rich man and Lazarus

About what happens after death – yes, but for a purpose!

Rich who make no provision for death are foolish!

Title of parable

- Follows traditional interpretation
- Parable of the Dishonest Manager (ESV, HCSB, NRSV, many others)
- Unrighteous Steward (NASB)
- The unjust steward (Amplified)
- **Philips - clever rogue, and the right use of money**

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Unrighteous Steward

- He was WRONG
- He faced termination
- He contemplated his future
- He provided for that future

He IS unrighteous. His action itself is NOT commended, only the fact of a limited sort of wisdom.

He was WRONG –

He faced termination and a problem – fired, no job, how to live...

He provided for that future –

‘Commended’ - wisdom

- Vs. 8 – commended for ‘doing wisely’ –
- Jesus: “for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light”

Provide for your FUTURE

Vs. 8 – commended for ‘doing wisely’ –

Jesus: “for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light”

If so in THIS WORLD, even more so in eternal scope of things... NOT the doing of unrighteousness, but the making provision for future eternal dwelling –

UNRIGHTEOUS use of \$ and things is NOT preparing for heaven!

Vs. 9 – and I say unto
you ... ‘make friends
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THIS in line with Jesus whole teaching on the problem of wealth...

Vs. 10 – Faithfulness –
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Faithful Steward

- Vs. 11 – IF NOT faithful in ‘unrighteous wealth’ – then NOT FAITHFUL to God!
- Vs. 12 – this is basic stewardship!
- Vs. 13 – hence dictum: YOU can NOT serve two masters...

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Hard for the rich
to enter heaven
Matt. 19:23

If riches increase,
set not your heart
on them... Ps. 62:10

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¹⁶ Be not afraid when a man becomes rich, when the glory of his house increases. ¹⁷ For when he dies he will carry nothing away; his glory will not go down after him
Psalm 49:16-17

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Psalms 49:16-17

Whoever trusts in his
riches will fall, but the
righteous will flourish
like a green leaf.
Proverbs 11:28

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“Do not lay up for
yourselves treasures on
earth, where moth and
rust destroy and where
thieves break in and steal,
Matt. 6:19

Proverbs 11:28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

“but lay up for yourselves
treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor
rust destroys and where
thieves do not break in
and steal.” Matt. 6:20

Proverbs 11:28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

**“the cares of the world and
the deceitfulness of riches
and the desires for other
things enter in and choke
the word, and it proves
unfruitful.” Mark 4:19**

Proverbs 11:28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

1 Timothy 6

- Contentment – 6-10
- Flee ‘these things’ –
- Pursue –
- Fix hope on God – 17
- Rich in good works, generous, ready to share - 18

Learn to USE – 1 Tim. 6:

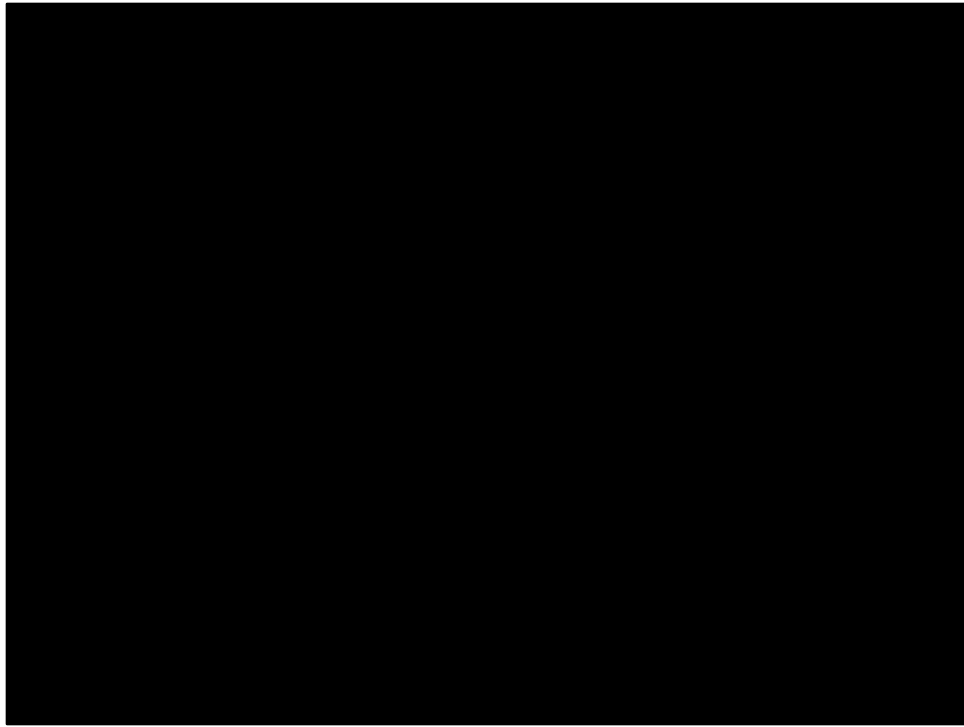
Contentment – vs. desire -- vs. 6-10

FLEE from these things – pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, gentleness – 6:11

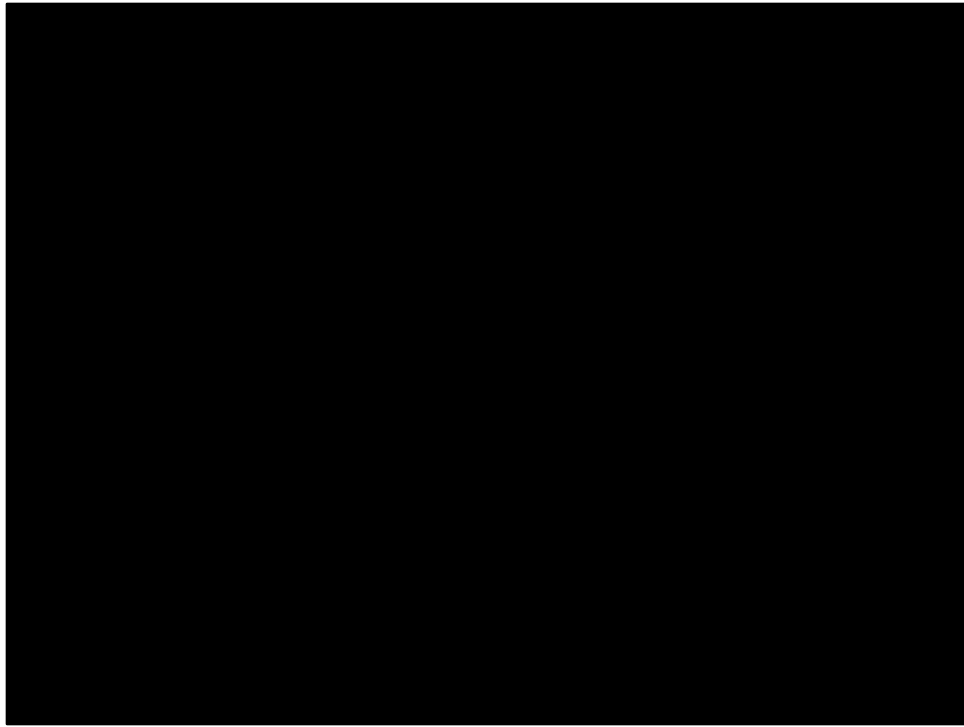
NOT be conceited – but fix hope on GOD – vs. 17

Be rich in good works, generous, ready to share – vs. 18

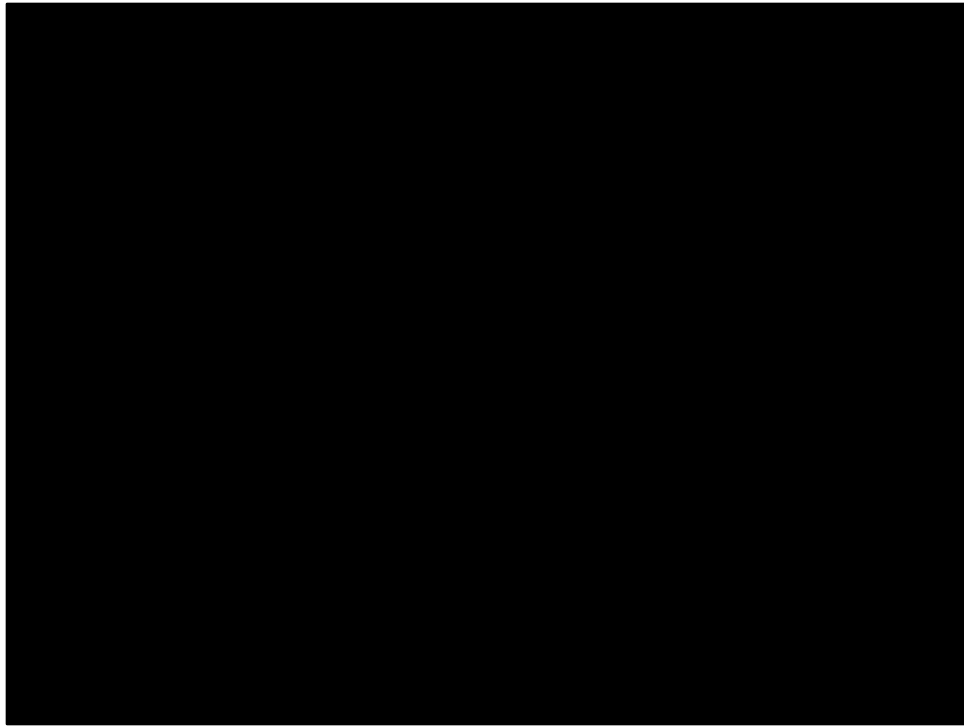
Store up treasure for the future (sound familiar? Like Luke 16?)



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