

Ephesians 3:20 - 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,

Luke 12:48b - From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

Luke 16 The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

16 Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. 2 So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.' 3 "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg— 4 I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.' 5 "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6 "'Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.' 7 "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "'A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.' 8 "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. 9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. 10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? 13 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." 14 The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. 15 He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight.

Parable of the Shrewd Manager



Descriptive / Prescriptive

The characters are wicked

The parable is for the benefit of the disciples, and the Pharisees

The Pharisees because they loved money

The parable is for us to help us become better/good stewards by looking at the actions of an unjust steward/manager

1. Faithfulness in small, worldly matters (like managing money or responsibilities) (God's or someone else's stuff)
2. The habit you form can stay with you
3. Being faithful in small things, demonstrates one's character and trustworthiness, indicating they will also be faithful with larger, spiritual responsibilities and "true riches" (God's kingdom).
4. While dishonesty/slackness/unfaithfulness in small things reveals a lack of character for greater things

Application

1. God wants us to act shrewdly (wisely) with what he has entrusted to us so as to win people into his kingdom
2. Let's make sure we are faithful with all we have right now
3. This shows God we can be faithful/trusted with more
4. God will not commit His true riches to individuals or ministries that have not been faithful with material wealth/resources. Who have not been Good stewards
5. We have to be totally devoted to God and single-minded. Can't serve God and money/material wealth