

**Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Assuring My Future"**
Luke 16:1-13
Study-66

Luke 16 Theme - The Use & Abuse Of Money: "A call to be wise and generous with the resources that God has entrusted to us."

Verses 1-13 Preparing For The Future
Verses 14-18 Law Of Moses/God's Word
Verses 19-31 Facing The Future

"Shrewd" "one who is astute, and discerning" seems like a good virtue.
Sometimes used of a person being tricky and cunning. (Jesus uses this term to describe a disciple)

Thought Of Our Passage: "Believers Are Blessed With Resources That Must Be Invested Here And Now Which Ensure Our Eternal Future"

- 1. Verses 1-8 Parable**
- 2. Verses 8-13 Principles**

1. Verses 1-8 Parable:

Luke 16:1 Now Jesus has just finished a discourse on "**The Lost And Found Chapter**" Contains a **lost sheep**, **lost coin**, and the **lost son** Prodigal son.
(Lost because of rebellion)

Religious were upset that Jesus would receive sinners! Two Types Of People: Those Who Receive The Message And Those Who Won't.

It is no accident that this chapter follows the story of the prodigal son who squandered his inheritance. **Luke 15:13**

It also comes between the story of the rich man. **Luke 16:25**

He was also saying to the disciples,

This is a change, as in the last chapter Jesus was addressing Pharisees **Luke 15:2** and the multitudes. Now the focus is on the disciples.

Luke 16:14-15 Addressed to disciples but the religious were listening.

who had a manager, superintendent, (Steward) - *is someone who manages something that belongs to someone else. He does not own it but has the privilege of enjoying it and using it for the profit of his master. (Managed tenant-farmers, lease the land, loan against the harvest)* Common for a person of **wealth** to have a **steward**.

Eliezer – Genesis 24:2 He was this trusted steward of Abraham

Joseph – a steward to Potiphar, an Egyptian officer of Pharaoh, captain of the bodyguard, **Genesis 39:6**

squandering – “to throw in the air, to throw away” Waste!

Luke 16:2 'What is this I hear about you? This word “**you**” expresses shock, betrayal, “*you of all people, have you betrayed my trust?*”

Give an accounting (Audit) of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ Give me the records/ledgers, not fired yet but you will be! Prodigal Son wasted - Luke 15:13 he squandered his estate with loose living.

This manager forgot that he was the manager and not the owner.

Luke 16:3 Manager Thought About The Future: “The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me?’

One Thing Is Certain Every person’s future will include our dismissal from this present life to the unknown regions in eternity!

This is the key to this parable: This man is a crook but even though he is a crook he has wisdom enough to plan for the future. (**His ability to see what is coming and to plan for it!**)

The Manager Acknowledged The Reality Before Him

The Application for us is that someday all are going to stand before God to give an account!

Luke 16:4 Concern For The Future Means Action: 'I know what I shall do, word “know” sudden knowledge, idea” He had a plan, he knew what to do - solution!

Luke 16:5 summoned each one of his master’s debtors, Tenant farmers. They farmed his master’s land for rent.

Luke 16:6 ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ (900 gallons olive oil, 146 olive trees)

(The Rightness or Wrongness Is Not Discussed) Creative Crook? who outsmarted the boss? (1st Century different) the manager could forfeit his commission for his future. (Exodus 22:25; Leviticus 25:36) (No interest Loan, which was illegal for Jews/Or I receive no commission) Ties his bosses’ hands and makes him a hero to his needed friends!

Luke 16:7 'A hundred measures of wheat.' (1000 bushels of wheat, 100 acres) **He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'** cuts 20% of the total bill.

Prepare To Meet God: He was an example because he made provision for what he knew was coming.

Luke 16:8 "And his master praised the unrighteous **manager** because he had acted shrewdly; **did a clever/wise thing.** (Impressed but not pleased) **(Foresight) forfeited his commission to prepare for future! These persons would be indebted to the manager for discount.** Use present opportunities to invest in eternity!

King David – (Good was David's repentance, sin bad)

2. Verses 8-13 Principles:

Luke 16:8 Prudent And Practical: for the sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind That this crook used intelligence, wit and energy to keep his earthly comfort!

than the sons of light. if we could give this same attention towards eternal things as we do business. If we would be spiritually shrewd in the things of God!

Luke 16:9 (3 Principles To Follow)

Principle #1 Use Money Wisely: "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves Can mean two things: *Bless God, and people* give to God and others generously, our giving. **Daniel 12:3**

by means of the wealth of unrighteousness, Or **mammon** – "riches, money" not only money but all goods of this world. *The things of this world which cannot be taken into the next life. Utilize your resources for the next life!*

so that when it fails, Death not Debt. "You can't take it with you when you go, but you can send it ahead!" Money is powerful but temporal!

Acts 20:35 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

they may receive you speaks of angels, God, people friends who benefited from our generosity, our giving.

into the eternal dwellings. Heavenly mansions,
John 14:2, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Luke 16:10 Principle #2 Verses 10-12 Prove Trustworthy/Faithful With Resources: "He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; Those that are faithful see that the little things are as important as the big things. Eternal perspective.

The manager was wise in preparing for the future, yet he lost his position because of unfaithfulness!

and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. We see this every day. With those in business that lie and make false promises.

Luke 16:11 Argument from the lesser to the greater: That if you are not trustworthy in material things than God will not entrust us with the spiritual things.

Luke 16:12 your own? (Material or Spiritual we must remain faithful to God)

Luke 16:13 Principle #3 We Will Serve God Or Money: "No servant can serve two masters; That two masters really can't be served adequately. **Servant** – "one enslaved to the will of another"

be devoted to one and despise the other. We speak of divided loyalties.

You cannot serve God and wealth." "Money is a good servant but a bad master" 1 Timothy 6:9

Application:

1. Use Money Wisely, Money Is Powerful But Temporal: "**And I say to you, make friends for yourselves**
2. Prove Trustworthy/Faithful With Resources, The Manager Was Wise In Preparing For The Future Yet He Lost His Position Because Of Unfaithfulness: "**He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much;**
3. We Will Serve God Or Money: "**No servant can serve two masters;**