

Cheating Yourself

Being Faithful
Stewards

Matthew 25:13-29



INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

- Matt 25:13 – last week of Christ’s life
 1. Latter part of last-things, His return and judgment
 2. God is the “man”
 3. We are the servants
 4. Talent was a sum of money; represents more than just money – everything.

GOD OWNS IT ALL

- The master: Matt 25:14
 - Psalm 24:1
 - Deut 10:14
 - 1 Chronicles 29:11-12
 - Psalm 50:10-12
 - Luke 16:10-13
 - Malachi 3:8

WE ARE MANAGERS, “STEWARDS,” OF WHAT GOD BRINGS INTO OUR LIVES

- Matthews 25:19, “settled accounts”
 1. Christians are accountable as stewards of God’s awesome resources given to us;
 2. Time, finances, family, spiritual opportunities, careers, and spiritual gifts.
 - 1 Cor 4:2; Luke 16:10-13; Rom 14:12
 - Matt 6:1-4; 1 Cor 3:8-9, 11-15; Rev 14:13

IF WE ARE STEWARDS OF GODS PROPERTY....

- Does this impact how I spend, invest, or use what God has entrusted to me?
 1. What do you want me to do with your money and your possessions?
 2. Does it impact how much debt I incur?
 3. Does it impact whether I save?
 4. Does it impact whether I tithe?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT ...

- Debt - Ps 37:22, Rom 13:8, Prov 22:7, Matt 6:22-24
- Savings - Prov 6:6-8; Gen 41:25-57
- Hard work, expanding a business or investing:
 - Genesis 2:15, Prov 14:4
 - 5 talent, 2 talent or 1 talent servants.

WE CHEAT OURSELVES WHEN WE DO NOT SEE GIVING AS ESSENTIAL TO KNOWING GOD

- 1 Timothy 6:18
- Luke 6:38
- Malachi 3:10-11

- We tend to eliminate our giving when we don't have enough to take care of necessities. That is like the 1 talent servant approach.

AM I TO GIVE AND AVOID MY FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES?

- Mark 7:11-13
- 1 Timothy 5:8

TWO SERVANTS WERE GOOD STEWARDS

- Gave their all for their Master;
- Intentional about the Master's purpose being their purpose.
- Received the favor of the Master.
- Faith in the Master was strengthened.