

Stewardship Part-I
{1 Corinthians 4:2}

“Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”

Background Scriptures: [Luke 19:11-27]: (13): ***“And He called His ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them Occupy until I come.”***

Note: (1): The parable of the ten pounds illustrates that each redeemed believer has the responsibility to use faithfully what God has given him or her. Each of us has been given the opportunity, the time and the means to live for Christ through acts of kindness, prayer, offerings, and in many other ways.

Whoever has been faithful in service for the Lord and has shared His burden here on earth will be richly rewarded in the future kingdom. They will be given even greater tasks in the new heaven and the new earth (**Revelation 21:1**). Those who have been faithful to a lesser degree will receive a smaller place and responsibility.

Objective: To exam and learn from scripture, how God wants us to be faithful stewards with our finances, time, talents, other tangible abilities and resources, as well as the opportunities given by God to represent, support, and advance the Kingdom Ministry Jesus Christ has called us to. **“Greater Works”** and apply both to **the spiritual** and **the natural**.

[John 14:12]: ***Verily, Verily I say unto you, he that believeth on Me, the work that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto the Father.***

Note: It is Jesus’s desire that His followers do the works He did (1) the “greater things” include both the work of converting people to Christ and performing of miracles. This is shown in the narratives of Acts (**Acts 2:41, 43; 4:33; 5:12**). And in Jesus’s declaration in (**Mark 16:17-18**). (2) The reason for the “greater things” done by disciples is that Jesus will go to His Father, send forth the power of the Holy Spirit and answer prayer in His Name (**vs.14**). The disciples’ “greater” works include greater numbers and greater scope of ministry.

[Luke 16:1-13]
(The Unrighteous/Unjust Steward)

[vs.8-13]:

Note: (1): The point of Jesus’s illustration is that the worldly are earthly minded enough to promote their own interest and welfare. In contrast believers often are not heavenly minded enough to use their earthly possessions to promote their spiritual and heavenly interest.

Note: (2): Mammon means worldly wealth, injustice, greed and power are often involved in the accumulation and use of worldly wealth. We must use possessions and money in a way that promotes God's interest and salvation of others.

Note: Those who are not trustworthy in their acquisition and use of worldly goods will be the same with spiritual things. This is why believers, and especially church leaders, must be free from the love of money (**I Timothy 3:1-3**).

Deeper Thought

Note: [II Corinthians 8&9]: deals with the instructions of about offering for the poor believers in Jerusalem. Paul's words contain the most extensive teaching found in the **N.T.** The principles given in them are a guide for believers and churches all time.

Final Thought: *Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.* [**I Corinthians 2:13**].