

Parable of the Shrewd Steward

Luke 16:1–13

Main Point

Faithfully steward your money for eternity.

- I. The Parable (16:1–8) | *A shrewd steward preserves his tomorrow*
 - A. A wealthy man’s steward wasted his possessions. The wealthy man decided to hold the steward accountable and requested to view the account books.
 - B. The steward faced a predicament: his mismanagement would inevitably lead to his firing. He couldn’t do manual labor and he was too proud to become a beggar.
 - C. He decided to call the wealthy man’s debtors and began to write away portions of their debts. In so doing, he ensured friendships with those debtors when the wealthy man finally removed him from the payroll.
 1. He may have been taking away a usurious tax on Jewish people which the Torah prohibited (cf. Deut. 23:19–20).
 2. He may have simply reduced the debt arbitrarily to gain the affection of the ones whose debt he marked down.
 - D. The wealthy man, in turn, commended the steward for his shrewdness (not his deception).
- II. The Principles (16:9–13) | *Steward your money for eternity by:*
 - A. Using it to build redemptive relationships.
 - B. Faithfully managing your allotment.
 - C. Serving the One to Whom it all belongs.