

Luke 16.1-18

"The Big Pay Back"

15.1,2 PHARISEES – Muttering

Challenged in their LOVES: DON'T Love PEOPLE, DO Love MONEY

### 1. The Clever Servant

a. Taskv. 1 WE READ ABOUT A - "manager"

THINK OF:

MANAGER // FINANCIAL CONTROLLER (PLANNER) // STOCK  
BROKER

MAKE MONEY ON SOMEONE ELSE'S MONEY

PROBLEM - NOT CORRUPTION = NOT MAKING ENOUGH MONEY

b. Terminationvs. 1-3 ... was accused of wasting his (owners)   
possessions. 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.' "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--(SOME CONSCIENCE)

FIRED - SPOIL HIS REPUTATION

Andre Aggasi "IMAGE IS EVERYTHING"

c. Treacheryvs. 4-7 I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my   
job here, people will welcome me into their houses.' "So he   
called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first,   
'How much do you owe my master?' "Eight hundred gallons of olive   
oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit   
down quickly, and make it four hundred.' "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.'

INTERPRETATIONS??

1) During HARD TIMES (drought, poor harvests) LOWER RENTS / FEES

2) HIDDEN INTEREST CHARGES - OT FORBADE CHARGING TO FELLOW JEWS

done by Manager / Sometimes without owners knowledge

COMMENDED FOR ACTING IN ACCORD WITH LAW??

ŠFROM THIS STORY JESUS TELLS ABOUT 2 KINDS OF PEOPLE -

v. 13 "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the  one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and  despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

## 2. Servants of God

vs. 1 Jesus told his disciples

### STARK CONTRASTS // INCOMPATIBLE

a. Investmentsv. 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.

USE YOUR MONEY TO SUPPORT THE GOSPEL - GET OTHERS TO HEAVEN

## WHEN YOU GET THERE YOU WILL BE WELCOMED BY THOSE YOU HELPED

Luke 12:15 "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Proverbs 10:2 Ill-gotten treasures are of no value,  
but righteousness delivers from death.

## BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE ON POSSESSIONS

2 Corinthians 4:18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

## YOU CANNOT TAKE YOUR MONEY WITH YOU, BUT YOU CAN SEND IT AHEAD

b. Consistentv. 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."

NOT WILL BE - CAN BE // NOT PREDICTION - STATEMENT OF FACT

MATTER OF CHARACTER - TRUSTWORTHY OR DISHONEST - BIG OR SMALL

ONLY GOD CAN CHANGE THE HUMAN CHARACTER - NEW BIRTH IN CHRIST

1 Timothy 5:25 good deeds are obvious... cannot be hidden.

ŠMETHOD OF CHURCH GROWTH - CONSISTENT (RELIABLE) PEOPLE

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the   
 presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also   
 be qualified to teach others.

## NEED FOR RELIABLE MEN AND WOMEN

WHEN "SECRETARIAT" WON KENTUCKY DERBY -CALLED  
 GREATEST HORSE EVER

"each successive quarter mile of the race was run faster than the   
 one before. THE LONGER THE RACE WENT, THE FASTER THE HORSE  
 RAN.

c. Trustworthy. 11,12 So if you have not been trustworthy in   
 handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?  
 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's   
 property, who will give you property of your own?

## WHAT KIND OF MANAGER ARE YOU? AM I?

PARABLE OF THE TEN MINAS - man with 1 made 10 more:  
 Luke 19.17,26 "'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied.   
 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take   
 charge of ten cities.'"He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone   
 who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing,   
 even what he has will be taken away.

Worldly wealth = Someone Else's Property  
 True Riches = Your Own Property

MEANING - YOUR WORLDLY WEALTH BELONGS TO GOD  
 Contra "my house, my car, my bank account, my net worth"

ONCE WE ARE GONE WE LEAVE IT ALL BEHIND - NO U-HAUL ON  
 HEARSE

WHAT WE POSSES IN LIFE IS "ON LOAN" / WE ARE ALL MANAGERS  
 ARE YOU TRUSTWORTHY IN WORLDLY "LOANS" (WEALTH)

IF NOT, HOW CAN YOU BE TRUSTED WITH ETERNAL RICHES FROM GOD??

Little Boy at Beach - SEES WOMAN SITTING UNDER UMBRELLA  
 "are you a Christian?" YES - "do you read your Bible every day?"  
 "do you pray often?" YES  
 WILL YOU HOLD MY QUARTER WHILE I GO SWIMMING??

Šd. Forcefulv. 16b everyone is forcing his way into it

WHAT ARE FORCEFUL PEOPLE LIKE??

DESCRIBED BY JESUS - THOSE WHO:

Luke 6:27-31 Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,   
 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If   
 someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If   
 someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic.   
 Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs   
 to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have   
 them do to you.

IT TAKES GREAT STRENGTH, GREAT COMMITMENT, GREAT FORCE

Matthew 5:29 If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out   
 and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your   
 body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your   
 right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is   
 better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole   
 body to go into hell.

## JESUS SAYS TO THE CHRISTIANS OF LAODECIA & HAILI

Revelation 3:15 I know your deeds, that you are neither cold ☐ nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!

So , because you are lukewarm--neither hot nor cold --I am about ☐ to spit you out of my mouth.

Lord Joseph Duveen - American head of prestigious Art Firm  
 1915 planned to send expert employee - EXAMINE ANCIENT POTTERY  
 TO ENGLAND - BOOKED PASSAGE ON GREAT SHIP LUSITANIA  
 German Navy struggling to CONTROL ATLANTIC OCEAN  
 THREATENED TO SINK ANY SHIP THAT SAILED ATLANTIC  
 Duveen told employee not to go "I can't take risk of your death"  
 "Don't worry I am a strong swimmer, and when I read what was ☐  
 happening in the Atlantic, I began hardening myself by spending ☐  
 time every day in a tub of ice water. At first I could sit only a ☐  
 few minutes, but this morning I stayed in that tub nearly 2 hours  
 DUVEEN LAUGHED - IT SOUNDED PREPOSTEROUS - MAN SAILED  
 LUSITANIA TORPEDOED AND SANK  
 FIVE HOURS LATER THE EMPLOYEE WAS RESCUED FROM THE  
 ATLANTIC OCEAN

FORCEFUL PEOPLE ARE ENTERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

## ŠSERVANTS OF GOD CONTRASTED WITH -

### 3. Servants of Money

v. 14 The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were ☐

sneering at Jesus.

IRONY - LOVERS OF MONEY = RELIGIOUS LEADERS // TODAY

MONEY ITSELF NOT ROOT OF ALL EVIL - "the LOVE of Money"

Servants of God - USE MONEY FOR GOD  
 Servants of Money - USE GOD FOR MONEY

SOME

"SAME SNEERS" by Religious Leaders today to those who are serious

a. Self Justified v. 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.

MAY HAVE SAID

Romans 3:8 "Let us do evil that good may result"?

COMMEND - Communism for capturing a 1/3 of world in 70 years

Coca-cola that more have heard of Coke than Jesus Christ

Abortionists & Homosexual movement for capturing the US media

DO NOT COMMEND - Message, Motivation, Beliefs, Goals

EMBARRASSED BY 2ND (OR EVEN 3RD) CLASS EFFORTS OF SOME  
 XTIANs

EX. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT GOOD IT IS ONLY FOR THE  
 CHURCH

MISSIONARY WHO RECEIVED A BOX OF "USED TEA BAGS"

GOD DOESN'T NEED DECADENCE OR EXTRAVAGANCE - BUT  
 BEST

JUST THINK OF ALL THE MONEY "WASTED" FOR PERFUME TO  
 WASH JESUS

Judas thought like that

## CURE SELF JUSTIFICATION - JUSTIFICATION THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

Romans 3:25 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement,   
through faith in his blood...to be just and the one who justifies   
those who have faith in Jesus.

Šb. Self Deceivedv. 15 "You are the ones who justify yourselves   
in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly   
valued among men is detestable in God's sight.

## INCREDIBLE ABILITY TO DECEIVE YOURSELF -

2 Timothy 3:13 evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse,   
deceiving and being deceived.

DO YOU THINK THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS THOUGHT THEY WERE  
WRONG??

OF COURSE NOT!! "WE HAVE ALWAYS DONE IT THIS WAY"

WHO IS THIS GUY JESUS? WHAT DOES HE THINK HE'S DOING

PROMINENT, WEALTHY WOMAN - HIRED AUTHOR TO WRITE  
BIOGRAPHY

SHOCKED - One Grandfather was a murder who was electrocuted in   
Sing Sing Prison -BEGGED THE AUTHOR TO FIND A WAY OF HIDING  
TRUTH

"One of her grandfathers occupied the chair of applied   
electricity in one of America's best known institutions. He was   
very much attached to his position and literally died in the   
harness."



## CURE SELF DECEPTION - THE TRUTH AS IT REVEALED IN JESUS CHRIST

John 17.17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this  world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

c. Self Ruled vs. 16,17 "The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed  until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God  is being preached...It is easier for heaven and earth to  disappear than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the  Law.

OT - THE LAW OF GOD // NT - THE RULE OF GOD IN THE KINGDOM  
THE FULLNESS OF THE LAW

PHARISEES REJECT BOTH LAW OF MOSES AND KINGDOM OF CHRIST

"We will not have this man to rule over us"

IF YOU TRY TO RUN YOUR LIFE, YOU ARE BOUND TO MAKE A MESS OF IT

RUN A CAR WHILE IGNORING THE OWNERS MANUAL // NEED REPAIR MANUAL

ŠCURE SELF RULE - THE RULE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

SOME OF THE MOST TERRIBLE WORDS OF SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will  enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my  Father who is in heaven. {22} Many will say to me on that day,  saying 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your  name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' {23} Then I  will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you  evildoers!'

### JESUS DOES NOT DENY THAT THEY DID THE GOOD WORKS

John 14:15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command.

d. Self Centeredv. 18 "Anyone who divorces his wife and  marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries  a divorced woman commits adultery.

### EXAMPLE OF LACK OF CONCERN FOR LAW OF GOD

Matthew 19:8 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce  your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way  from the beginning.

### ROOT OF MOST DIVORCE IS SELFISHNESS

Rabbi's Interpretation of OT - WOMAN TOOK ALL THE BLAME

#### GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE:

Rabbi Hillel - Wife puts TOO MUCH SALT IN BROTH

Rabbi Akiba - Husband found SOMEONE PRETTIER than his wife

#### NEW STANDARD IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Galatians 3:28 IN CHRIST There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave  nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

#### MEN ARE JUST AS RESPONSIBLE FOR DIVORCE BEFORE GOD

#### CURE for SELF CENTEREDNESS - A LIFE CENTERED ON JESUS CHRIST

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

