

### *Valuables*

- What are some of our “valuables”?
- Some “valuables” have only temporary value



### *Valuables*

- What are some of our “valuables”?
- Some “valuables” have only temporary value
  - What are other examples?
- What is a smart thing to do with temporary valuables?
  - Trade them in while you still can!
- What is a wise way to have, view, and use our valuables?
- Pray: Ask God to open our hearts to His Word
  - This can be a particularly hard lesson to learn
  - Yet so wonderful and freeing! And it pleases God

# Currency Exchange

## Luke 16:1-13

Chinese: page 1694  
 Spanish: page 1328  
 Brown: page 1048  
 Green: page 714



### *Luke 16:1-13*

1a: Jesus teaches his disciples

1b-2: • Before and after this focus on disciples,

3-7: Jesus specifically taught the religious leaders

- They criticized Jesus' behavior and teaching

8a: • It seems that Jesus is specifically warning his

8b-12: disciples about an error of the religious leaders

13:

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*Luke 16:1-13*

1a: Jesus teaches his disciples

1b-2: Parable: Manager learns that his job will end

3-7: • Parable: A made up story  
that generally teaches one main point

8a: • Truth that is obvious in one setting

8b-12: is then applied to the Kingdom of God

13: • Manager has a short time left in his job  
because he had been a bad manager

*Luke 16:1-13*

1a: Jesus teaches his disciples

1b-2: Parable: Manager learns that his job will end

3-7: Manager uses the last days in his job to provide  
for his needs after the job is over

8a: • Debtors probably rented fields and then owed part

8b-12: of the harvest

13: • Each was forgiven perhaps 500 days' wages

- Manager pleases the clients while harming his master (it seems), yet his master had already fired him, while clients could still help him
  - “Reciprocity”/Honor-Shame setting

*Luke 16:1-13*

1a: Jesus teaches his disciples

1b-2: Parable: Manager learns that his job will end

3-7: Manager uses the last days in his job to provide for his needs after the job is over

8a: The owner praises this dishonest manager

8b-12: • Surprise: Owner was impressed by the

13: “shrewdness” of the manager: **smart, creative, effective action** that met a critical need

- Perhaps how the owner got to be rich
- Owner (and Jesus) still viewed his action as dishonest

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8a: The owner praises this dishonest manager

8b-12: Jesus presents this dishonest manager as a model

- 13: • God’s people should learn from his shrewdness ... not his dishonesty!
- We’re like him: our lives won’t last forever, and this age won’t last forever, so worldly wealth will fail us
  - We also should plan for how current resources can become valuable for our next life → be shrewd

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**13:** Jesus' big idea: you can't serve both the current age (wealth) and the coming age (God)

- Serving current age (wealth) is the default
- We must be intentional about serving God with our wealth, or we won't

**Big Ideas****This world's wealth**

- Is surprisingly little
- Always spoils & decays
- Always goes away

**Heavenly wealth**

- Abundant (magnified)
- True/lasting/pure
- Can be ours for good

**We can convert this world's wealth into heavenly wealth by generously using it/giving it to pursue God's values**

**Unconverted wealth dishonors God**

**Even seemingly tiny wealth can be greater than the greatest riches when converted into heavenly wealth**

**The wise give up  
what they are guaranteed to lose  
in order to gain far better  
that is theirs to keep  
and to use forever**



### *Application*

- **See the limitations of this world's wealth**
  - Seem far bigger/more powerful than they really are
    - They always promise to give more than they can
    - They very often take away more than they give
  - They always decay
    - Literally: rust, devaluation
    - Possessions lose their power to satisfy
    - Praise loses its power in a moment
    - Pleasure creates its own dissatisfaction
    - Sin quickly spoils what was good, quickly leading us astray
  - We always lose them eventually
    - They go away, or we go away

**Money  
Time  
Praise  
Possessions  
Pleasure  
Power  
and more...**

**Retrain our eyes to see it**

We must have and use them, so seek God's wisdom & discretion

### *Application*

- **See the limitations of this world's wealth**
- **See the beauty of heavenly wealth offered to us**
  - Abundant, magnified: widows' 2 tiny coins were bigger than the richest people's gifts in the temple
    - Actually, those with less have the potential of receiving far more
  - True/lasting/pure: always better than we can see
    - They have no dark side, and no spoiling, decaying tendency
    - They are life-giving
  - Truly are ours to keep forever
    - They never go away, and neither will we

**Retrain our eyes to see it**

### *Application*

- **See the limitations of this world's wealth**
- **See the beauty of heavenly wealth offered to us**
- **Convert this world's wealth into heavenly wealth**
  - Give money to "Kingdom of God" work: 10%+
  - Give time to do "Kingdom of God" work
  - Add God's values to what you have, enjoy, or must do
    - Care for people by inviting them into your hobbies, home, relationships, sports, entertainment, ...
    - Care for people in what you already must do
    - Apply your skills and interests to God-honoring tasks
    - Do whatever you do with thankfulness, to the praise of God
  - What you might think is very small (money, time, skills, ...) can be of immense value when given fully to God!

*Application*

- See the limitations of this world's wealth
- See the beauty of heavenly wealth offered to us
- Convert this world's wealth into heavenly wealth

*Individually and as a community,  
family, and church*

*Be shrewd: smart, creative, effective  
in using temporary things  
to pursue God's values  
and turn them into heavenly wealth*

**The wise give up  
what they are guaranteed to lose  
in order to gain far better  
that is theirs to keep  
and to use forever**

**It is sad, shameful, and dishonoring  
to God to do anything else**

**It honors and pleases God  
to 'convert our currency' with joy!**

