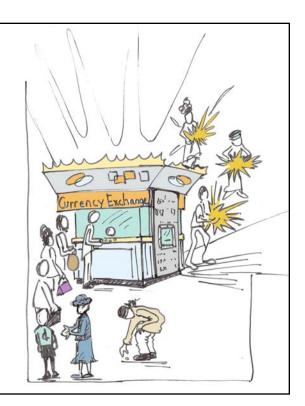


Valuables

- 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

la: 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:

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

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

- la: 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

Luke 16:1-13

- la: 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: 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

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: Jesus presents this dishonest manager as a model

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

