

Money The Revealing Test

Luke 16: 1-13

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Read the parable found in Luke 16:1-13. As you read, underline or circle words that are repeated or emphasized.

To whom was Jesus directing this parable? From the surrounding verses, who else was listening?

Do you think the rich man is a picture of God? How, why or why not?

Look at the rich man's reaction in verse 8? Why do you think he reacted that way?

Read again verses 8 & 9. Along with these verses below, what do the following verses say about our view of other people?

Luke 16:19-31

1 John 4:20

1 Timothy 6:10-18

In what ways have you made yourself a slave to money or debt? How does this restrict your availability to be used by God for the kingdom?

In what ways could you make money a slave to you rather than you being a slave to it? In other words, what is your responsibility for the things God has entrusted to you?

For you, what is the purpose of money? How much is enough?

Money is a test to see if we even have a view of eternity or if our focus is all on here and now.

Jesus taught His disciples that they should use material things for future spiritual benefit. How could that play out in your life? Are you trusting God to provide for all your needs?

A servant cannot serve two masters at the same time. It isn't like working two jobs. Jesus has the master and slave relationship in view. You cannot serve God and mammon: Some think that just because they are not rich, they can't be a slave to money (mammon). But you don't have to be rich to serve mammon; the poor can be just as greedy and covetous as the rich person is. The poor man who spends his money on lottery tickets is no different from the rich man who hoards his wealth or spends it frivolously - they are both slaves to money.

What do the following verses have to say about wealth and security?

Proverbs 23:4-5

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20

Matthew 6:19-21