

Stewardship (Part 2)

The Disciplined Use of Time

What do the following passages suggest about stewarding the time given to each of us?

Ecclesiastes 9:10-12

Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with *all* your might; for there is no activity, planning, knowledge, or wisdom in Sheol where you are going. ¹¹ I again saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift and the battle is not to the warriors, and neither is bread to the wise nor wealth to the discerning, nor favor to the skillful; for time and chance overtake them all. ¹² For indeed, a person does not know his time: like fish that are caught in a treacherous net and birds caught in a snare, so the sons of mankind are ensnared at an evil time when it suddenly falls on them.

John 9:4

We must carry out the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.

Ephesians 5:15-17

So then, be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of your time (redeeming the time), because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*.

James 4:13-15

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." ¹⁴ Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. For you are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while, and then vanishes away. ¹⁵ Instead, *you ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

2 Peter 3:8

But do not let this one *fact* escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

The Disciplined Use of Money

Why does God consider the biblical use of money and resources such a crucial part of our growth in Godliness?

Giving Reflects _____ in God's _____

Mark 12:41-44

⁴¹ And Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and began watching how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large amounts. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two lepta coins, which amount to a quadrans. ⁴³ Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; ⁴⁴ for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."

Giving Should be _____ and _____

2 Cor. 8:1-5

Now, brothers and sisters, we make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, ² that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality. ³ For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave voluntarily, ⁴ begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints, ⁵ and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

Giving Reflect _____

Luke 16:10-13

"The one who is faithful in a very little thing is also faithful in much; and the one who is unrighteous in a very little thing is also unrighteous in much. ¹¹ Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true wealth to you? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Giving Reflects _____ and Responds to Real _____

Acts 4:32-35

³² And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. ³³ And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. ³⁴ For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales ³⁵ and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each to the extent that any had need.

The Biblical Concept of Provision

1 Timothy 5:8

Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Also See **Ephesians 4:28; Matthew 6:25-34**

The Dangers of Money

Matthew 19:23-25

And Jesus said to His disciples, "Truly I say to you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴ And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."²⁵ When the disciples heard *this*, they were very astonished and said, "Then who can be saved?"

1 Tim. 6:6-11

But godliness *actually* is a means of great gain *when* accompanied by contentment. ⁷ For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it, either.⁸ If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.¹¹ But flee from these things, you man of God...

Other Arenas of Stewardship