

Luke 16:1-18

Shrewd Manager

I. Certain Rich Man vv.1-2

Translation — “And again He began to speak to the disciples: ‘There was a certain rich man who had a business manager, and he was accused as one who was squandering his property.’ ” v.1

Translation — “Therefore having called him he said to him, ‘What is this I am hearing about you? Submit your accounts for an audit, because you are no longer permitted to be manager.’ ” v.2

II. The Shrewd Manager vv.3-7

Translation — “And the manager said to himself, ‘What am I to do since my lord is taking away the stewardship from me? I am not able to dig: I am ashamed to beg.’ ” v.3

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Translation — “I know what I will do, so that when I have been dismissed from the stewardship they will receive me into their own homes.” v.4

Translation — “So when he had called in each one of the debtors of his master, he began by asking the first, ‘How much do you owe to my master?’ ” v.5

Translation — “And he said, ‘Eight hundred gallons of oil.’ But he said to him, ‘Take your receipts, sit right down and write four hundred gallons.’ ” v.6

Translation — “Then to another he said, ‘You — and how much do you owe?’ And he said, ‘Twelve hundred bushels of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your receipt and write nine hundred, sixty bushels.’ ” v.7

III. The Lord Praised v.8-9

Translation — “But the lord praised the steward of unrighteousness because he acted with prudence. For the sons of this age are wiser in dealing with their own contemporaries than the sons of light.” v.8

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Translation — “Therefore I am telling you, ‘Make for yourselves friends out of the mammon of unrighteousness, in order that, when it fails, they may receive you into permanent living quarters.’” v.9

IV. The Trusted Servant vv.10-11

Translation — “The one who can be trusted in a small matter can also be trusted with much, and the one who cannot be trusted in a small matter cannot be trusted with much.” v.10

Translation — “If then you have not been trustworthy in the business world, who will trust you with the true riches?” v.11

V. The Untrustworthy Servant vv.12-14

Translation — “And since you were not trustworthy in the interests of others, who will give to you our own?” v.12

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Translation — “No servant is able to serve two masters. Therefore either he will hate the one and the other he will love, or to the one he will give loyal support and the other he will hold in contempt. You cannot serve God and money.” v.13

Translation — “Now the Pharisees had been listening to all this and, because they were greedy they began to turn up their nose at Him.” v.14

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VI. Examples of Untrustworthy Servants vv.15-18

Translation — “And He said to them, ‘You are always justifying yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is considered impressive in the human sphere is contemptible before God.’ ” v.15

Translation — “The law and the prophets (were preached) until John; since then the Kingdom of God is being preached and everyone is forcing his way into it.” v.16

Translation — “But it is easier for the heaven and the earth to pass away than for one dotting of an i in the law to lack fulfillment.” v.17
