



## BUT WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT IT? "What Did Jesus Say About Wealth?" Luke 16:1-18

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Sometimes Jesus spoke directly to His detractors and other times to His disciples. But on this occasion, He spoke to both of them, presumably because they all needed to hear what He had to say about wealth! It's a universal issue of vast importance that touches everyone.

### I. The Setting.

- A. A teaching opportunity for His disciples.
- B. A reaction from His detractors. v. 14

### II. The Story. vv. 1-8

- A. A steward ("oikonomos") who abuses his privileges and responsibilities.
- B. A summons to "give an account."
- C. A severance with dire circumstances.
- D. A solution that is shrewd and self-serving.
  - 1. His options are few, but he uses them fully.
  - 2. His interests are narrow, but he pursues them avidly.
  - 3. His resources are limited, but he handles them shrewdly.
    - a. A 50% discount to the olive oil man.
    - b. A 25% discount to the wheat man.
    - c. A law of reciprocity that will serve him well.
- E. A statement that raises the eyebrows.
  - 1. A commendation from the "Kyrios."
  - 2. A grudging acknowledgment that the steward is smart, if not honest.
  - 3. A comparison between:
    - a. The people of this world.
    - b. The people of the light.

### III. The Significance. vv. 9-18

- A. "Worldly wealth" has the power to corrupt—"unrighteous mammon."
- B. "Worldly wealth" is of limited value—"when it is gone."
- C. "Worldly wealth" can be used for eternal purposes.
- D. "Worldly wealth" can be a barometer of character—"trusted with little."
- E. "Worldly wealth" can become a substitute for God—"God or Money."
- F. "Worldly wealth" can capture our hearts—"Pharisees who loved money."
- G. "Worldly wealth" is addressed by both Law and Kingdom.
  - 1. Moral and ethical principles of the Law apply in the Kingdom.
  - 2. Money and marriage are of prime concern for detractors and disciples.

**Points to Ponder:** What does my money say about my character and my spirituality?