

Faithful in the Little Things

Luke 16:1-18

11/19/00

Intro

This is a lesson Jesus gave to His disciples about the importance of having our hearts right before God.

He is also saying that we cannot separate our *spiritual* and *worldly* lives. They have a great impact on each other.

As a basis for His teaching he uses a parable of an unrighteous, worldly steward.

This lesson is about being faithful to the Lord in the little things.

I. If the World is Shrewd, How Much More Should We Be Wise?

Vs 1-8

A. Jesus uses an argument from the lesser to the greater.

- If shrewdness is praised in the world, how much more will wisdom be praised in the Kingdom?

B. Shrewdness is in relationship to the world, wisdom is in relationship to heaven

II. Earthly Mammon has Heavenly Consequences.

Vs 9

A. Jesus is using the parable as a reference to the point.

B. Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.

- Money is a worldly currency, but is able to have eternal effects.

Illus – The man who couldn't tithe (but could afford cable).

III. Faithfulness in the Little Things Brings God's Trust.

Vs 10-12

A. If you're faithful in the little things, you'll be faithful in bigger things.

Illus- Shopping at Target and discovering the receipt was wrong (in our favor)

Illus- Copying CD's, software

- B. God wants to entrust spiritual riches to us.

Luke 19 – Parable of the minas.

II Chron 16:9 The eyes of the Lord.

- God wants us to have a spiritual effect on others.

III. Choose Whom You Will Serve.

Vs 13

- A. We cannot serve both God and mammon.
- B. That which is highly esteemed among men, is detestable in the sight of God.

Illus- We are stewards of what God has given.

Conclusion

These topics are often uncomfortable for many, but it's like when we go to the doctor and he pushes on us here and there and we wince at the touch. "It's not supposed to hurt there," he says, "this needs to be healed."

The same is true at the touch of the Holy Spirit, "It's not supposed to hurt there," He says, "this needs the healing touch of the Great Physician."