

ANSWER SHEET

A Study of the Gospel according to Luke Fall Session# 2 – Man and Money Read Luke 16: 1 – 31

1. Chapter 16, verses 1 – 13 is looked upon as one of the most difficult passages in all of Scripture to understand. In the parable itself what did Jesus say about the unjust steward?

Jesus said four things about the unjust steward.

- a. He was charged with embezzlement, with wasting the Lord's goods
 - b. He was required to prepare a final accounting.
 - c. He knew he was guilty and was unwilling to change and cry for mercy
 - d. He decided what to do: He would forget the Lord and court the favor and rewards of people.
2. In reading verse 8, why did Jesus commend the unjust steward?

Jesus was not commending the steward for his cunning deceit. He commended him for his concern about the future and his dedication and energy. The steward was sold out to pursuing a goal, and that part of his life was commendable.

3. How are you as a Christian supposed to use material wealth? Let the following scriptures inform your answer. Matthew 6:33; Luke 18:29 – 30; Exodus 23:25; Malachi 3:10.

The Christian is being told to use material wealth to help others. By so helping, the disciple will gain friends and influence them for Christ.

4. As Christians, we are called to be faithful in handling possessions, for your faithfulness determines what you will be trusted with eternally. Scripture tells us that the true heavenly riches and rewards are beyond comprehension.
 - a. What do the following scriptures say are the rewards dealing with our nature or state of being?
Being given Eternal Life John 3:16, 1 Timothy 6:19
Being given an enduring substance Hebrews 10:34
Being given a glorious body Philippians 3:11, 21; 1 Corinthians 15:42 – 44
 - b. What do the following scriptures say are the rewards dealing with our Inheritance or Wealth?
Being given an incorruptible inheritance 1 Peter 1:3 – 4
Being given the blessings of the Lord Proverbs 10:22
Being given treasures in heaven Matthew 19:21; Luke 12:33

5. Who is the other man mentioned in verse 12?

The other man in verse 12 refers to God. Our lives and possessions are His.

6. Money has the power to take God's place in your life. How can you tell if you are a slave to money?
- a. You think and worry about it frequently.
 - b. You give up doing what you should do or would like to do in order to make more money.
 - c. You spend a great deal of your time caring for your possessions
 - d. It is hard for you to give money away
 - e. You are in debt.

7. Jesus said, "But God knows your heart." What did He mean as it relates to money?

The heart is that which makes a person acceptable to God, not money. Money does not mean that a person is blessed by God. It is the heart of a person that shows the blessings of God. God's blessings are not material things, they are spiritual things. God wants people to center their lives and esteem around the things of the heart, not around the things they possess. Material possessions pass way; spiritual possessions endure forever.

8. What is the one major, primary difference in verses 16:19 – 21, between the rich man and Lazarus?

The rich man was nameless, but Lazarus was named. The difference is ever so big. It is the difference between being known and honored by God and not being known or honored by God.

9. What is the difference in death between the rich man and Lazarus?

Lazarus died and was escorted to Paradise; the rich man died and was buried. The only words said about the rich man's death: "He died and was buried." The rich man was probably buried in the finest clothes within the best grave and cemetery. He probably had the most impressive funeral with words of praise spoken over him. However, the tragedy is that he knew nothing about it. He was not there to enjoy it. He just died and was buried. However, Lazarus died and was carried by angels into Abraham's bosom.

- a. Lazarus lived on despite his body being dead.
- b. Lazarus' soul was immediately met by angels.
- c. Lazarus was carried into the very place where the Source of all wealth is, where all who have trusted God are, the Paradise of God Himself.

10. The rich man is unable to intercede for his family. Note the words, "Neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead." What is the point that Jesus is making?

If they did not believe Moses and the prophets, who spoke constantly of the duty to care for the poor, not even a resurrection would convince them. Man's unbelief is not due to lack of signs; it is due to their love for the world with all its creature comforts and recognition, indulgence and selfishness, pleasures, and honors.