

Get Smart—With Money!

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 16:1-14.

B. Jesus took sanctified delight in shocking the religious prudes of His day.

II. The sons of darkness are wiser than the sons of light.

A. A wise steward after being fired, steals from his master, and lowers the debts of his master's debtors to secure their favor.

1. Sex, hunger and money are the basic drives of the human being.
2. This passage helps to understand how to deal with money because every Christian must deal with it.

B. Principles Jesus taught from the parable.

1. Worldly people are more persistent at obtaining their goals than Christians with their broader worldview.
 - a. What the Christian learns here is to prepare himself for another life.
 - b. Use money while it still has value for God's kingdom.
2. The person careless about his money will be careless about spiritual principles—if we are not faithful in the little things and in what belongs to another we will not be secure in what is really important, like love.
3. Money is the image of a rival god—use it but do not serve it.
 - a. You cannot live to make money and serve God simultaneously.
 - b. The proof of your love for God is that you use money to help others and be a steward of it.
 - c. Riches deceive and give an appearance of power.
 - d. We reveal to God what money really means to us in the unconscious moments of life.

Application questions:

1. How can it be said that the sons of darkness are wiser than the sons of light? Explain.

2. Why is persistence important in regards to using money?

3. How should you view your money today? What challenges do you facing in doing so?
