

We Should Be GOOD STEWARDS ~ 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

→ Scripture Reading 1 Cor. 4:1-2, 1 Tim. 6:6-10

INTRODUCTION

Stewardship- Responsible for OVERSEEING and MANAGEMENT of Resources. Wikipedia

BIBLICAL STEWARDS ~ Genesis 39:4-6

[4] So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him **overseer** of his house and **put him in charge of all that he had**. [5] From the time that he made him **overseer in his house and over all that he had**, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field. [6] So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. (ESV)

A **STEWARDS** acted as a Supervisor or Administrator, Overseeing Finances and Property. D. Rainey

We are STEWARDS of... ~ Genesis 1:27-28

→ CREATION

Genesis 1:27-28 (NIV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. [28] God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; **fill the earth and subdue it**. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and **over every living creature** that moves on the ground."

1 Timothy 6:17 (HCS) Instruct those who are rich in the present age NOT to be ARROGANT or to set their **hope on the uncertainty of wealth**, but on **God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy**.

→ SPIRITUAL - GIFTS

1 Peter 4:10 (ESV) As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as **good STEWARDS** of God's varied grace:

A spiritual gift cannot be earned, or demanded. It is to be RECEIVED as a gift of God's grace. ...believers do not OWN these gifts, God has given these gifts for them to develop and use for the benefit of the church and for His glory. MacArthur

→ TIME

Psalms 31:15 (NIV) My **TIMES** are in **YOUR hands**... (NLT) My **FUTURE** is in **YOUR hands**....

Job 14:5 (NIV) **Man's DAYS** are **Determined**; **YOU** have **Decreed** the **number** of his months and have **SET LIMITS** he **cannot exceed**.

→ We are ALL on BORROWED Time

→ FINANCES - RESOURCES

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NLT) Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. [7] After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. [8] So if we **have** enough **food** and **clothing**, let us be content. [9] But people who **long to be rich** FALL into temptation and are TRAPPED by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. [10] For **the love of money** is the **ROOT** of **all kinds of evil**. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

If God is Blessing you Financially...

- do NOT let Money or Things take your EYES OFF of Him
- do NOT become STINGY

A GOOD Steward...

- will be CONTENT with what God provides
- will Love God MORE than Money or Stuff

→Just because I can AFFORD it - does not mean I SHOULD buy IT

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) But seek FIRST His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

GOOD STEWARDS Must be... ~ 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

→FAITHFUL

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (NET) One should think about us this way - as servants of Christ and **stewards** of the mysteries of God. [2] Now what is **sought in stewards** is that one be **found FAITHFUL**.

→ACCOUNTABLE

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (NET) So then whether we are alive or away, **we make it our ambition to please HIM**. [10] For we **must all appear** before the **JUDGMENT SEAT of Christ**, so that each one may be paid back according to what he has done while in the body, whether good or evil.

TAKE AWAY??

TRUTHS about STEWARDSHIP... D. Rainey

- God OWNS it ALL
- God SUPPLIES for ALL our Needs
- ALL Financial Decisions are really SPIRITUAL Decisions
- Money may be a TOOL to be used to ACCOMPLISH God's plans
- ATTITUDES about Money will Drive ACTIONS regarding Money
- The core issue about money is NOT the AMOUNT - it is the our ATTITUDE towards it

Question for Reflection:

Does my ATTITUDE and PRACTICE reflect the Biblical TRUTHS that God OWNS it ALL and that I am a STEWARD of the Resources He has ENTRUSTED to me?