

BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

WHAT IS BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP? ...

I. GETTING A BIBLICAL _____ OF STEWARDSHIP.

First mention of the word... Gen 15:1-3 The first steward was heir in Abe's house!

1. Stewardship has a _____ to son-ship. Think adoption. Rom 8:14-15

Why? 1Chron 28:1

2. A Steward holds a _____ of great trust and responsibility!

Rom 16:23; Gal 4:1-2

chamberlain = city mayor, responsible for the whole community. This is a great trust.

The word translated "steward" is rendered Gal 4:2 as "governor," one responsible for the life of your child = **this is a post of HIGHEST TRUST.**

3. Stewards must give _____ for their work. Luke 16:1-2

BACKGROUND BIBLE STUDY: DISPENSATIONAL THEOLOGY AND THE STEWARD'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Luke 16:1-2 is the key passage for understanding dispensations (stewardship) as they are intended to be understood in the Word of God.

Stewardship come from the Greek word "oikonomia" (sounds like "economy") it is also translated as "dispensation" in 1 Cor 9:17, Eph 1:10, 3:2, Col 1:25

SO, according to this example: In every dispensation we can see the following...

- There is one in authority (God) to delegate the task, and one in responsibility (God's people) who are to manage the task.
- There is a failure in the dispensation.
- There is accountability in the task, eventual removal and judgment.
- A new steward is designated to the task.
- You can see the Word of God break itself down according to this structure.
- Other dispensational schemes combine or further divide (which is usually the case) this listing.

CLASSIC VIEW OF SEVEN DISPENSATIONS

Name	Chief Steward	Place	Stewardship	Judgment
Innocence	Adam	Gen 1:3-3:6	Tend and keep the garden. Don't eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.	Gen 3:13-19
Conscience	Adam's kids	Gen 3:7-8:14	Do good	Flood
Government	Noah	Gen 8:15-11:9	Obey Gen 9:1-7	Languages confused, nations scattered.
Patriarchs	Abraham	Gen 11:10-Exo 18:27	Take the promised land, believe and obey God.	Bondage in Egypt. Wandering in the wilderness
Law	Moses	Exo 19- John	Keep the Law.	Captivities
Grace	Apostles	Acts—Rev 19:21	Believe on Jesus. Walk with God. Get the good news out!	Rapture to the judgment seat of Christ. Loss of reward.
Millennium (Kingdom)	Nations	Rev 20:1-15	Believe and obey Christ and His government	Death. Great White Throne Judgment.

Remember our 3rd point for study here is “Stewards must give an account for their work.”

- **Ex: Adam and Eve’s failure as stewards. Gen 2-3**
 - **How much of the new creation did they really own? Psa 24:1**
 - They had all access to everything - except one choice / one tree.
They had all dominion (Gen 1:26-29) –but they were to manage it all for the glory of God.
Gen 2:15-25
 - Satan focused on the part that was reserved to God and tried to get them out of stewardship into ownership in Gen 3. Satan’s sales pitch? “God is holding out on you!” Gen 3:5

How is your stewardship looking? How is your account coming? How will you answer God?

Are you faithful to God with all that He has entrusted to you?

OR, have you been wasting His goods?



Our example...

II. JESUS CHRIST, SUPER-STEWARD.

Your role as God’s steward is modeled by Jesus.

1. **Jesus _____ as a steward!** Php 2:2-12; John 4:34; 17:4; 19:30
2. **God _____ Him as a steward!** Php 2:9-11
Christ SERVICE, His sacrifice – bought something great with God. Our redemption before God, our position as Christ’s body and bride. ***This bought our salvation – it demands our service.***
3. **You are a steward of God.** Phil 2:12

Why did Christ do it?

- a. **Heb 12:2 You were worth it. (Phil 2:3-4, 8)**
- b. **John 17:4 His heavenly Father was worth it.**

Because Jesus had all the data – He (with Joy!) lay down His life in service to His Father! I was worth His total consecration! To Him – Rom 12:1 – WAS REASONABLE!

He offers for you to simply join Him in His glory!

What about you? Joh 15:4-16

Didn’t the Lord bear much fruit thru Calvary / thru His reasonable service?

How does it remain today? For eternity we will worship Jesus as Lord to the glory of the Father!

KEY: In this age / as stewards of God in this dispensation of the Church age – we are to make disciples. **Why? Because when we bear that kind of fruit that remains, God is glorified for eternity!** Key: our John 15 and Rom 12:1-2 life = Rom 8:14-18

Our ruling is also to God’s glory! Rom 8 – we then rule with Him!

His command? His invitation?

“Take up your cross (reasonable service) and follow me.” Matthew 16!

1Co 4:1-2 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. (2) **Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**

