

Luke 16 The Dishonest BUT Astute Manager (Part 3 of 3)

The Importance of Natural Intelligence

verses

Artificial Intelligence

Matthew 13:10-16 **And the disciples came** and said to Him, "Why do You speak to **them in parables?**"

11 Jesus answered them, "To **you** it has been granted **to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven,** but to **them it has not been granted.**

12 For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him. 13 **Therefore I speak to them in parables;** because while seeing they do **not see,** and while hearing they do **not hear, nor do they understand.** 14 In their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says,

`You will keep on hearing, but will not understand;

You will keep on seeing, but will not perceive;

15 For the heart of this people has become dull,

With their ears they scarcely hear,

And they have closed their eyes,

Otherwise they would see with their eyes,

Hear with their ears,

And understand with their heart and return,

And I would heal them.'

16 **BUT blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear.**

17 For truly I say **to you** that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what **you see**, and did **not see it**, and to hear **what you hear**, and **did not hear it**.

The Context is Always Essential to the Interpretation of Words.

i. The Importance of the Context Shown.

We have already seen something of this in the consideration of the Structure of the Word and the Words of God.

The order of the words is as perfect as the truth revealed by them, and contained in them.

This order is Divine: and it is nothing less than a crime for any human hand to subvert that order, either by ignoring it or changing it.

Beware of any teacher to whom the context is not manifestly essential. Beware of any teaching that is not based upon it.

*Some passages of Scripture derive their chief importance from some remarkable words employed; others derive their chief importance from some wonderful truth revealed; while others derive their chief importance **from the place where we find them. Every passage has its own importance in this last respect. When we find a passage in its own particular place, there is a Divine reason why it is there, and also why it is not in any other place.***

*It is essential to our understanding of the "words" to find out why they are **where we find them**. It is essential to our enjoyment of the words that we should discover not only what they mean, but why they are not in any other passage. If we would find the words and the Word of God to be a delight to us, instead of a perplexing jumble, we must have special regard to the Context.*

If this be disregarded, then a word, a sentence, or a verse, may be taken out from its context and interpreted of something quite foreign to its original intent.

We have all heard the proverbial saying that "the Bible may be made to prove anything." Exactly so; but this, very often, is only when, and because, a verse is taken apart from its context: otherwise it could never be made to teach anything different from the context in which God has set it.

Every sentence and every verse has something going before it and something following after it. We call this the context. This is regarded as being essential even in the case of human writers. How often are complaints made by public speakers and writers that only a part of what they have said is quoted; whereas, if the whole had been given, or even the sentence that preceded or followed, quite a different complexion would have been given to the point referred to.

If this be so important where man is concerned, how essential it must be when we remember that, in the case we are considering, it is God's context and not man's.

How great must be the presumption if we disregard or disturb that context.

Yet this is constantly done in order to prop up some tradition.

Chapter 12:15 Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.".....

20-21 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?' 21 So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.".....

30-34 For all these things the nations of the world eagerly seek; but your Father knows that you need these things.

31 But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

32 Do not be afraid, little flock, **for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom.**

33 "Sell your possessions and **give to charity**; make yourselves money belts which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near nor moth destroys.

34 **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

Luke 14:12-14 And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and that will be your repayment. 13 But when you give a reception, **invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,** 14 and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to **repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."**

Luke 14:33-35 So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not **give up all his own possessions.**

34 "Therefore, salt is good; but if even salt has become tasteless, with what will it be seasoned?

35 It is useless either for the soil or for the manure pile; it is thrown out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Main points:

- ◆ *we should be attentive as to how we steward our money and resources investing them in OTHERS, in order that it will help in the day of need (v:9).*
- ◆ *A point of concern raised in verse 4 was "home", where would the Manager end up living? Clarification comes in verse 9 where it mentions "eternal dwellings". What we do today for others impacts where we end up in the earthly kingdom, this was a mystery of the kingdom to all listening. The earthly kingdom is the eternal dwelling.*
- ◆ *The MAIN POINT and TRUTH of this parable being we as followers of Jesus Christ should be astute in our use of our money and resources in helping the brethren firstly and others, in this present evil age.*
- ◆ *Thereby, we in the age to come will be rewarded IF we are doing it with the correct motives. So we, as followers of Jesus are to be astute toward*

all others NOT as this steward was, as he did it for his own selfish motives.

Luke 16:19-20 Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day. 20 And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores,.....

25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember **that during your life you received your good things,** and likewise **Lazarus bad things;** but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.

Luke 17:7-10 Which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come immediately and sit down to eat'?

8 But will he not say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat, and properly clothe yourself and serve me while I eat and drink; and afterward you may eat and drink'?

9 He does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded, does he?

10 So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, **'We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.'**"