The unjust Steward and our time on Earth

# Luke 16:1-13; 1 Timothy 6-19

1. **The dilemma of the “squanderer.”** Lk 16:1-3 These three parables deal with the stewardship of great wealth *The Prodigal, the unjust steward and the rich man and Lazarus.* Verse 14 summarizes the Pharisee’s reaction (scoffing). Like us the steward has a limited time to make provision for the future. He has less than 24 hours to provide for the time coming where all his privileges and abilities as steward will be removed. He will professionally die.
2. **He brings financial relief to his master’s debtors:** Lk 16:4-9 The amounts given are substantial. There are most probably more than the two debtors listed these are just examples. The master was impressed with the steward’s shrewdness in response to his dismissal. *Jesus’s application:* Make use of the worldly goods, abilities and authority for the spread of the gospel and charity to the needy.
3. **Faithfulness in service:** Lk 16:10-13 Our constant test as believers is how we manage the material things God had given us. First little things then big things. We all start out in managing what belongs to another person. Then the eternal things of heaven will be meted out. We can use mammon to serve God but we cannot use God to serve mammon.