

STEWARDSHIP

Part 2

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged. Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.” (Colossians 3:9-25)

God had blessed us with many beautiful and precious things. Some of the people they would say that God had not given us anything of value; but that is the spiritual blindness that had blinded their minds from seeing the abundance of God's blessings. Therefore let your hearts be full of gratitude toward God for he had given you much. There are titles mentioned in the above passage such as wives, husbands children parents, slaves and masters. To the blind these titles does not represent something of value, but to those with graceful hearts means lot.

The titles of husbands, wives, children and parents represent the presence of families. To have a family is a blessing; for a man to have a wife is a real blessing, ***“He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.” (Proverbs 18:22)*** As well as the husband to the wife is something great. The women in general they pray and they cry to God to give them husbands to marry. Therefore when they got marry they should be grateful to God for the husbands they received. They must show their gratefulness to God by obeying His Word by submitting themselves to their husbands and obeying what they ask of them to do, ***“Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.” (Colossians 3:18)*** In the same way husbands they should love and care for the wives that God gave them. ***“Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.” (Colossians 3:19)*** And in doing that husbands would show their love and faithfulness toward God. Husband and wife should live in love and unity in the atmosphere of the home. Both should care for the children and take part in house responsibilities.

Fathers, as head of families, should instruct their children and raise them and train them in the way of the Lord. Not to oppress them or exasperate them but encourage them to obey God and receive from Him blessings. Children ought to be obedient to the parent in everything for this pleases the Lord. God should be happy in the family. If everyone would do his part and contribute in the above described way the Lord will be pleased and He will pour out so much blessing without measure.

If we obey God's commands and applying them in the mid of our families we are wise people. For this reason Jesus came into the world. He came to the world that we would have life and have it to the full. He died on the cross for our sins. He was buried but on the third day He rose from the death to give eternal life to those who believe in Him and follow His Word and steps in their lives. Jesus is the living Word of God, and to follow what He said and the Word of God in the Bible, it means you are inviting blessings into your life. Therefore to be a good steward is not only a responsibility but a source of blessings.

Another two titles that have mentioned are the servant and the master. Slaves in our contemporary time are the employees who work under the direct care of the employers. Truly they are under someone but in reality and truth they are serving the Lord and they are under His care. In certain times you may be working in a work of a low salary, or you may be working under hard circumstances and you are abused, cheated and even under paid. That might tempt you not to work well or grumble because you are not receiving what is due for you. The Word of God is telling us ***“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.” (Colossians 3:23)*** The Lord is God of justice; you may be treated not in a good way and they might be stealing from you what is due for you. But the Lord will replace back and compensate you for all that was taken from you. The Lord will calculate the difference and one day He will give it back to you. God's payment is not on monthly bases and not instant but on His perfect time. But He need from you to work hard and be honest in the place that you are working; to go on time and to come on time and to be diligent and sincere in your achievement. Don't work according to the size of your salary but do your duty as it is required in the place that you are working. Because when the time comes God will give you part of the fruit of your labour and your hard work. If you are working with these principles you are a good steward and you will receive many blessings.

Masters, God had entrust you with much blessings and among such blessings are the people who are under your care, so treat them well, they will work better and be more fruitful. Your master, the Lord our God in Heaven, will be pleased for that and He will reward you for it. But if you will not follow that, and you will treat those labourers under your care in a bad way, this is not good stewardship. God will not be happy with that and He will repay you back for this wickedness.

My Dear and Beloved: “Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism” (Colossians 3:25) Follow God's Word and His way of life. These above are the principles of life. Trust God and obey Him and He will prosper you as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried but rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to follow exactly Your Word. I repent from my previous sins _____ . Lord help me to follow you and remind me to obey you, because you had promised blessing in obedience. This is my Prayer in Jesus name, Amen.