

BOOK OF 1 THESSALONIANS
STEWARDSHIP OF THE GOSPEL
PART 2
1 THESSALONIANS 2:4

Introduction

We began looking last week at this **Truth** of our being “*put in trust with the gospel*”.

We said that phrase, “*to be put in trust with the gospel,*” speaks of our **stewardship of the Gospel God which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ!**

When we speak of **stewardship**, understand that the general idea is that of a **fiduciary relationship or trust relationship** where *one is placed in charge of another's property for the purpose of overseeing it for the owner's benefit!*

We (believers) have been entrusted as caretakers (stewards) of something (The Gospel) that belongs to another (God)!

I. *STEWARDSHIP IMPLIES THERE IS AN OWNER!*
EVERYTHING IN THIS UNIVERSE IS GOD'S!!!
As Creator, God has absolute rights of ownership over ALL things!
We applied that to the Gospel.

We saw that the Gospel of Jesus Christ that gives us that eternal life belongs to God—It is Christ's Gospel in us that gives us that eternal life but with the possession of it we need to understand this one truth!
IT IS THE GOSPEL OF GOD!—IT BELONGS TO GOD!

And as it belongs to Him, He calls on us to first BELIEVE it, then after we BELIEVE IT and it is in our possession, we are to SHARE IT as GOOD STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL!

II. **STEWARDSHIP IMPLIES THAT THERE IS SOMETHING OF VALUE THAT IS BEING ENTRUSTED!**

That is, there is something of value that God (the Owner of it all) has entrusted us with!

That “*something of value*” in this case is the Gospel of God!

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1 THESSALONIANS 2:4

Every believer has come into possession of the Glorious Gospel of God at the moment of conversion! Amen!

It is how we got saved and were eternally delivered from condemnation and damnation in hell!

Jesus did His part of providing the Gospel by becoming the Son of Man! (God became flesh!)

He did that alone! Only He could make that one, supreme sacrifice for the souls of man! The worth of what He did is measured in the value of the eternal souls of men!

Whether a man realizes it or not, his soul is the most valuable thing in His possession as a human being! But his soul is lost without what Christ has done! What Christ has done SHOWS the value placed on the soul by God!

God gave us HIS MOST VALUABLE TREASURE—HIS OWN PRECIOUS SON! He did that so that we could be saved and cleansed and delivered from the awfulness of our sin and delivered from the jeopardy of losing our own soul!

It doesn't matter who you are and how much you possess in this world!
There has never been and never will be a treasure on the same plane as THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!

Mark 8:36-37 36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? 37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

In reading and understanding those two verses, we come to understand the value of a soul, but also we come to understand the **TRUE VALUE OF THE GOSPEL!**

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PART 2
1 THESSALONIANS 2:4

THE GOSPEL IS MORE VALUABLE THAN THE WHOLE OF THE WORLD COMBINED!

1. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Of The Worldly Prosperity Or Possessions!

Psalm 49:6-8 6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; 7 None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: 8 (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:)

2. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly Power!

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

3. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly Passions!

People are passionate about many different kinds of causes! Many of them might be good or worthy causes, but none of them are on the scale of the Gospel!

The Gospel was purchased through the passion of Christ for those that were lost! He had a passion to deliver us from eternal damnation! That my friend is the greatest passion!

Because of His passion in dying for the lost, our passion should be to get the Gospel to the lost! It is the single greatest thing we can be passionate about!

4. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly People!

Many people have done great things in life. However, no one but Jesus can save...His salvation is through the Gospel!

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PART 2
1 THESSALONIANS 2:4

5. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly Popularity Or Prominence!

What good is it to be prominent or popular in this world and die and go to hell?

6. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly Privilege!

No one but Jesus has been born that didn't need to be born again!

7. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly Protection!

8. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Worldly Provisions!

9. It Is More Valuable Than Any And All Of The Worldly Purposes And Plans!

*STEWARDSHIP IMPLIES THERE IS AN OWNER!
STEWARDSHIP IMPLIES THAT THERE IS SOMETHING OF
VALUE THAT IS BEING ENTRUSTED!*

III. STEWARDSHIP IMPLIES THAT THERE IS A STEWARD OR STEWARDS WHO ARE GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY!— EVERY BELIEVER IS A STEWARD OF THE GOSPEL!

1 Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

*Galatians 2:7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the **gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me**, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;*

*Titus 1:3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, **which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;***

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A Right View Of Our Responsibility Demands A Proper Response!

- 1. Obedience To The Great Commission!**

- 2. Occupied With Living To Please God, Not Men!**
Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

- 3. Ordering Our Lives Aright!**

Conclusion

Listen, it is only through grasping these truths and allowing them to be embedded in our hearts that we are going to be good stewards that are pleasing to the LORD!

So, what kind steward are you of what God has given you?
Especially, what kind of steward are you of the Gospel?

Are you like the one in the parable of the talents that took the one talent that he had and hid it?

Or are you a good and faithful servant?