

Intro:

1. The Bondservant Must Retain Respect and Recognize the Real Owner.

1a. The Selfish Side-Track.

Luke 12:15-21 (ESV) ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully,

¹⁷ and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?'

¹⁸ And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

²⁰ But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

1b. The Simple Truth.

Psalm 24:1 (ESV) ¹ A Psalm of David. The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

= Everything Belongs To God!

1c. Your Standard Test.

Malachi 3:10-11 (ESV) ¹⁰ Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

¹¹ I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts.

Luke 12:34 (ESV) ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(The previous point focused on things; the next on TIME)

2. The Bondservant Rejects worry but Responds to the master.

2a. Set Aside Stress.

Luke 12:22-23 (ESV) ²² And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on.

²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.

2b. Seek what is superior.

Luke 12:31-34 (ESV) ³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

³² "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

³³ Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.

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

3. The Bondservant should be Ready For Review.

3a. The Bondservant should stay dressed! (ready)

Luke 12:35-36 (ESV) ³⁵ "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning,

³⁶ and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

3b. The Savior will suddenly return.

Luke 12:38-40 (ESV) ³⁸ If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

³⁹ But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.

⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

"I have only two days on my calendar; this day and that day. I will live this day for that day" -Martin Luther

4. The Bondservant will Receive Rewards!

4a. We will see Jesus and to be served by Jesus.

Luke 12:37 (ESV) ³⁷ Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.

(emotion of both of these concepts) (2nd = Peter at footwashing)

4b. He will set the bondservant over His household and possessions.

Luke 12:42-44 (ESV) ⁴² And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time?"

⁴³ Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

⁴⁴ Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.

Invitation: To a radical life full of changes, challenges, and great rewards.