

Scripture: Deuteronomy 15:1-11
Singing: 159 – 137:3-6 – 24 – 113:1-2, 12

Lord's Day 42

God's teachings often dwell on two practical subjects

A. The misuse of our mouth

B. The misuse of money

THE 8TH: HONOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR RESOURCES (1)

I. The truth about our resources

II. The details of our stewardship of our resources

I. What is the truth about our resources?

A. All we 'owe' belongs to our Creator

1. Ps. 24:1; 1 Chron. 29:10-14; Ps. 50:10

a. covers all material resources

b. covers all physical resources

c. covers all personal resources

d. covers all common grace resources

e. covers all saving grace resources

2. God reminder: *all I give you of Mine is a resource to use on My behalf*

a. Deut. 15; 1. Cor. 10:31

B. We are to be content with what God has given us: 1 Tim 6:6-8

C. We may seek to increase our resources if our purpose is the 'law of love'

1. The positive commandment of the 8th is Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 6:18-19

2. Consider God's practical call for charity and economic forgiveness: Deut. 15

a. purpose of the laws of Year of release (Sabbatical) & Year of Jubilee

b. God's warning in Deut. 15:7-11 is revealing about our hearts

3. The New Testament teaching on stewardship: James 5:1-6

D. We may enjoy what God has given us richly (1 Tim. 6:16)

1. God has given us far more than we need to live

a. observe grace does God reveal in His cheerful generosity to us

2. Solomon's observations are God's directions

a. Enjoy the good He gives us: Eccl. 2:24-26 – 3:12-13 – 5:18-20 – 6:2

d. Don't set your heart on any of it: Eccl. 2:1-11-- 5:10-13

Concluding Reflections on *Charity*:

A. Charitable giving to our neighbors ranks higher than attending church

For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burntofferings.

He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doeth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. (Micah 6:6, 8)

B. Charitable giving to the poor reflects God's stupendous act of grace

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. (2 Cor. 8:9)