

# Luke 16

Chapter 16 of 24 · 31 Verses · Authorized King James Version

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## **The Parable of the Dishonest Manager**

<sup>1</sup> And he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods.

<sup>2</sup> And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.

<sup>3</sup> Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed.

<sup>4</sup> I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.

<sup>5</sup> So he called every one of his lord's debtors unto him, and said unto the first, How much owest thou unto my lord?

<sup>6</sup> And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty.

<sup>7</sup> Then said he to another, And how much owest thou? And he said, An hundred measures of wheat. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and write fourscore.

<sup>8</sup> And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.

<sup>9</sup> And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.

<sup>10</sup> He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

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### **The Law and the Kingdom of God**

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

16 The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

17 And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

18 Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.

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### **The Rich Man and Lazarus**

19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

## HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

### Angel — ἄγγελος (Angelos)

Angel, messenger

The Greek **angelos** (ἄγγελος) means angel or messenger. Angels announced Christ's birth (Luke 2:9-14), ministered to Him (Matthew 4:11), and will accompany His return (Matthew 25:31).

### Believe — πιστεύω (Pisteuo)

To believe, trust, have faith

The Greek **pisteuo** (πιστεύω) means to believe or trust—active reliance upon Christ. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish' (John 3:16).

### Eternal — αἰώνιος (Aiōnios)

Eternal, everlasting

The Greek **aiōnios** (αἰώνιος) denotes eternal or everlasting—unending duration. Believers possess 'eternal life' (John 3:16) now and will dwell with God eternally, while the impenitent face 'eternal punishment' (Matthew 25:46).

### Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

### God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

### Heaven — οὐρανός (Ouranos)

Heaven, sky

The Greek **ouranos** (οὐρανός) denotes heaven—God's throne and the believer's eternal home. Jesus taught His disciples to pray 'Our Father which art in heaven' (Matthew 6:9) and promised to prepare a place there (John 14:2).

### Justify — δικαιώω (Dikaioo)

To justify, declare righteous

The Greek **dikaioo** (δικαιώω) means to declare righteous—a forensic term for acquittal. Believers are 'justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus' (Romans 3:24).

### Kingdom — βασιλεία (Basileia)

Kingdom, reign

The Greek **basileia** (βασιλεία) means kingdom—both the realm ruled and the exercise of royal authority. The 'kingdom of God' is central to Jesus' teaching, representing God's saving rule breaking into history.

### Law — νόμος (Nomos)

Law

The Greek **nomos** (νόμος) denotes law—particularly the Mosaic law. While believers are not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14), Christ fulfilled the law (Matthew 5:17) and wrote it on believers' hearts (Hebrews 8:10).

## Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

## Prophet — προφήτης (Prophētēs)

Prophet

The Greek **prophētēs** (προφήτης) denotes a prophet—one who speaks forth God's message. Jesus was recognized as 'a prophet mighty in deed and word' (Luke 24:19), fulfilling and surpassing the prophetic office.

## Love — ἀγάπη (Agape)

Divine love

The Greek **agape** (ἀγάπη) denotes self-sacrificial, unconditional love—the highest form of love, characterizing God's nature (1 John 4:8) and the love Christians are called to demonstrate.

## Repent — μετανοέω (Metanoëo)

To change one's mind, repent

The Greek **metanoëo** (μετανοέω) means to change one's mind or purpose—a complete transformation of thinking. John the Baptist and Jesus both began their ministries with 'Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand' (Matthew 3:2; 4:17).

## CROSS REFERENCES

**Luke 16:1** **Parallel theme:** Luke 8:3; 12:42; 15:13; 15:30; 16:19; 19:20; Proverbs 18:9; Titus 1:7; James 4:3. **Good:** 1 Peter 4:10

**Luke 16:2** **Parallel theme:** Ecclesiastes 12:14; 1 Timothy 5:24; 1 Peter 4:5; 4:10; Revelation 20:12

**Luke 16:6** **Parallel theme:** Luke 16:12; Titus 2:10

### Luke 16:8

**Light:** John 12:36; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5. **Righteousness:** Luke 16:10. **References Lord:** Genesis 3:1. **Parallel theme:** Luke 16:4

**Luke 16:9** **Parallel theme:** Luke 11:41; 12:33; 16:13; Proverbs 19:17; Matthew 6:24; 19:21; Acts 10:31. **Righteousness:** Luke 14:14; 16:11; Daniel 4:27

**Luke 16:10** **Faith:** Luke 19:17; Matthew 25:21; 25:23; Hebrews 3:2

### **Luke 16:11**

**Parallel theme:** Luke 12:33; 18:22; Ephesians 3:8; Revelation 3:18. **Faith:** James 2:5.

**Righteousness:** Luke 16:9

### **Luke 16:13**

**Love:** Matthew 6:24. **Parallel theme:** Luke 11:23; 14:26. **References God:** Joshua 24:15; James 4:4

**Luke 16:14** **Parallel theme:** Luke 12:15; 20:47; 23:35; Isaiah 56:11; Jeremiah 6:13; 8:10

### **Luke 16:15**

**Parallel theme:** Luke 11:39; 1 Samuel 16:7; Proverbs 16:5; 21:2; Jeremiah 17:10. **References God:** 1 Chronicles 29:17; Acts 15:8; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 1 Peter 3:4. **Righteousness:** Luke 10:29

**Luke 16:16** **References John:** Matthew 21:32. **Kingdom:** Luke 10:9; 10:11; Matthew 3:2; 4:17; 10:7. **Word:** John 1:45. **Prophecy:** Luke 16:29; 16:31; Acts 3:18

### **Luke 16:17**

**Word:** Luke 21:33; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; Romans 3:31; 1 Peter 1:25. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 51:6

**Luke 16:18** **Parallel theme:** Matthew 19:9; 1 Corinthians 7:4

**Luke 16:19** **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 16:49; 27:7

**Luke 16:20** **Parallel theme:** Luke 16:21; 1 Samuel 2:8; Job 2:7; Acts 3:2; James 1:9; 2:5

**Luke 16:21** **Parallel theme:** Matthew 15:27

**Luke 16:22** **Parallel theme:** Job 21:13; Proverbs 14:32; Ecclesiastes 8:10; Matthew 24:31; Mark 8:36; John 13:23; Hebrews 1:14; James 1:11; 1 Peter 2:24; Revelation 14:13

### **Luke 16:23**

**Parallel theme:** Luke 16:28; Psalms 9:17; Isaiah 14:9; 14:15; Matthew 5:22; 5:29; 18:9; 23:33; 2 Peter 2:4; Revelation 20:10

**Luke 16:24** **Parallel theme:** Zechariah 14:12; Matthew 25:41; John 4:10; 4:14; James 3:6; Revelation 20:15; 22:1. **References Abraham:** Luke 3:8; 16:30. **Grace:** James 2:13

**Luke 16:25** **Parallel theme:** Luke 6:24; Psalms 17:14; Mark 9:45; Acts 14:22; Romans 8:7; 1 John 2:15. **Good:** John 16:33

**Luke 16:26** **Parallel theme:** Psalms 49:14; 50:22; John 3:36

**Luke 16:28** **Witness:** Acts 20:23

**Luke 16:29** **References Moses:** Acts 15:21. **Prophecy:** Luke 24:27

**Luke 16:30** **References Abraham:** Luke 16:24. **Repentance:** Luke 3:8; 13:3; 13:5

**Luke 16:31** **Parallel theme:** Acts 19:8; 26:28; 2 Corinthians 4:3; 5:11. **Prophecy:** Acts 28:23

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