

Luke 16:1-13 (NRSV) Readers' Theatre

Arranged by David A. Douthett for *More Than Hearing*

Jesus “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him,

Rich Man ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’

Jesus Then the manager said to himself,

Manager ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. [*Pause*] I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’

Jesus So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first,

Manager ‘How much do you owe my master?’

Debtor 1 ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’

Manager ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’

Jesus Then he asked another,

Manager ‘And how much do you owe?’

Debtor 2 ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’

Manager ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’

Jesus And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

Rich Man “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much;

Manager and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.

Jesus If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”