

## STEWARDSHIP

INTRODUCTION: Stewardship: Manager of an estate in behalf of an employer.

1. PEOPLE ADDRESSED:
1. Elders-bishops, Titus 1:7
2. Preachers, 1 Cor. 4:1
3. Believers in general, 1 Cor. 4:2; 1 Peter 4:10

THOUGHTS: "The hours perish and are laid to your charge. "Now I have one more hour to answer for."

2. ALL RESPONSIBLE. We are stewards of:

1. TIME: Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5; Rom. 13:11; Eccl. 3:17  
Time defined in three ways:

1. Time has a beginning and an end.
2. Time is described as past, present, and future.
3. Time changes. God is changeless. God does not abide in time, he inhabits eternity. There is no before or after eternity...an ever abiding present.

2. OUR BODIES: Belong to God. 1 Cor. 6:13, 19, 20;  
Phil. 1:20.

3. Our children. 1 Chron. 28:8; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4

1. God gives us stewardship over them for but a few short years in which we must prepare them to live in one of only two places: Heaven or hell.
2. On one car of a long freight train were chalked these words: "Perishable property-Do not switch off."
  - (1) This car could not be left one day off the main track by some careless conductor.
  - (2) It was loaded with goods such as would be destroyed if side tracked.
  - (3) Children given into the hands of parents by God are "perishable property." We must not switch them off the track by: Carelessness; irregularity; or neglect.

4. EARTHLY POSSESSIONS: All has been given to us by God.  
1 Tim. 6:17f; Eccl. 5:15, 16, 18, 19; 1 Cor. 4:7.

5. THE GOSPEL: All required to teach others. 1 Cor. 4:1, 2  
Col. 1:25, 26; 1 Cor. 9:16; 2 Tim. 2:2; Heb 5:1

3. THE RESULTS OF UNFAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP:

Luke 12:41-48; Luke 16:1, 2, 10-12

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