

BUT IT IS NOT THE SPIRITUAL THAT IS FIRST BUT THE NATURAL, AND THEN THE SPIRITUAL.

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Which brother are 400?

which master do you serve?

Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. - Ecclesiastes 11:1



ociety treasures first things. Any investor will tell you a penny now is better than a dollar tomorrow. Our first try is our surest, our first impression is the most important, and we always live in the here and now! "Gather ye rosebuds while ye may."

But have you ever noticed God's providence comes through the second things? Wait on the Lord! He is the God of second chances & future promises. For greater things have yet to come!

#### Learning from the Classics...

In Pilgrim's Progress.
Christian meets Passion
Who wants his wealth now &
his younger brother
Patience who is willing to
Wait.

Who fairs better?

Patience.

"For first must give place to last, because last must have his time to come, but last gives place to nothing, for there is not another to succeed."

As you read the stories of the unjust steward, the Pharisees' reaction, and the rich man & Lazarus, consider this first world & the coming second world.

READ: LUKE 16

### THINK & CHAT!

#### HOW DO YOU VIEW SECOND THINGS?

#### LUKE 16:1-13

The unjust steward is managing wealth to chase financial security and fleeting reputation in this world. How can we invest towards divine purposes & eternal rewards?

Can you serve God & mammon?

Do they have any overlap?

#### LUKE 16:14-18

Why did the Pharisees take offense at the unjust steward? How do riches & rewards appear in the Law and Prophets vs. John the Baptist's herald of the Kingdom of Heaven?

How does a point-blank equation of remarrying after divorce to adultery challenge a self-serving approach to the Law in this world?

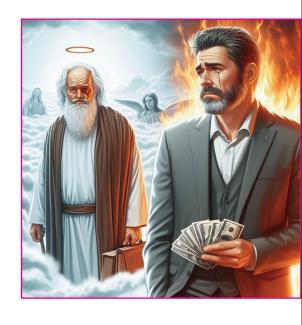
#### LUKE 16:19-31

How did Lazarus view worldly things?

What was the rich man's sin?

Abraham was a legendarily rich man in life, so much so that the land could not support both him and his nephew's wealth. How can he talk about the rich man this way, saying, "Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things?"

Are Moses and the Prophets sufficent for convicting us to prepare for the next world?



#### 1 Tîmothy 6:17-20

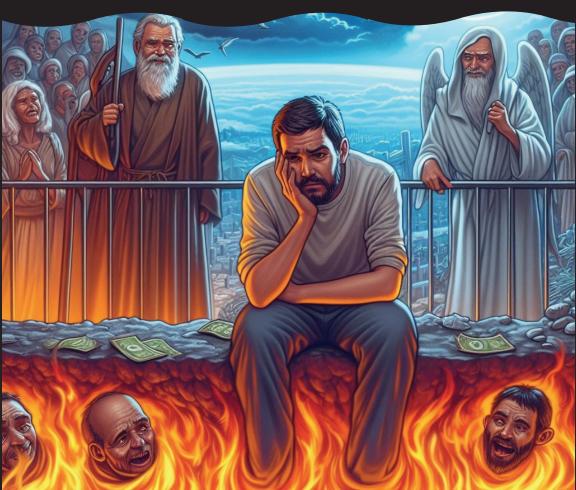
As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life. O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you.

#### **MALACHT 3:13-15**

"Your words have been hard against me, says the Lord. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the Lord of hosts? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape."

#### PROVERBS 11:4

Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.



# WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

James 1:22 says, "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves," so you gotta do it! After all, if Moses and the Prophets aren't enough for you, what more could Lazarus from the dead tell you?

Live itl

