

The Perfect Steward
Rev. Brian Heller
Holy Trinity, Walnut

“No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (St. Luke 16:13)

In our society, we hear a lot about what we are entitled to. Things that we are owed. Things that we deserve. In St. Luke’s Gospel, Jesus, in His parable of the unjust steward, paints us quite a different picture. We are owners of nothing- instead, everything that you have is a gift given to you from God. Your car, your job, your children, parents, and wife- all of these God has made you a steward of. No, being a steward is not a bad thing. Quite the opposite, really. There is something freeing about being a steward, and not the lord. Your Heavenly Father says, “Here is your wife, your job, your money. Be faithful with these. Don’t worry about what your neighbor has. Look to what I have given you and be faithful with what I have entrusted you.”

That’s the difficulty, though. We aren’t always faithful with what God has given us. We waste our lives away by holding on to grudges against family members, lusting after those whom God has not given to us as our spouses, focusing on ourselves and our life above all else. We have tried serving both God and money. Our Heavenly Father demands an account of us, His stewards, in our death. How have we used the gifts He has given to us? Like the unjust steward, there is no trial, no protesting of innocence. The case is over. The law accuses us. We have squandered everything.

Thanks be to God that He, the Master, is merciful. He sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to be the perfect steward, for you. Christ is the only one who has loved God perfectly, and has not served money. He did not hold on to His life at all costs, but gave Himself up for you, to deliver you from sin, death, and the power of Satan. In your baptism, Christ makes you a just steward.

Therefore, brothers and sisters in Christ, it is not too late. It is still day. Repent, and believe in the Gospel. God is merciful. God is loving. He will forgive you your sins, and His promises are true for you- from now into eternity.