

# Luke 16:9-13. Christ Exhorts His Disciples to Be Faithful in the Use of Riches.

by Favell Lee Mortimer

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of being faithful in the use of riches and making friends with the mammon of unrighteousness by spending it in the relief of the saints and in the service of God.*

**Scripture:** Luke 16:8-9, Luke 16:11-12, Galatians 6:14, 1 Timothy 6:10

**Topics:** "Faithful Stewardship", "Eternal Riches"

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## Description

Favell Lee Mortimer preaches about the wise use of riches as demonstrated by the unjust steward, emphasizing the importance of using worldly wealth to make friends for eternal dwellings. Despite money being often associated with unrighteousness, a righteous use of it can be made by helping others and serving God. The faithful stewardship of even small amounts of wealth reflects a deep love for God and will result in being entrusted with true riches in the afterlife. Riches are seen as borrowed possessions, and believers are called to give an account of how they have used their resources, ensuring they are not serving both God and worldly desires.

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## Transcript

The Lord Jesus had shown, by the history of the unjust steward, that the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light. He next explained in what particular point they are wiser--in the use they make of riches. The steward made use of the property consigned to his care in gaining friends, who would receive him into their habitations when he lost his stewardship. Therefore Jesus said to his disciples, "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness, that when you fail they may receive you into everlasting habitations." The name given to riches is very remarkable--"the mammon of unrighteousness." Money is often made an occasion of sin, and the love of money is the root of all evil. Yet even of this unrighteous mammon, a righteous use may be made. Our Lord's precept would be more clear, if rendered thus--"Make to yourselves friends WITH the mammon of unrighteousness." How can friends be made with this mammon? By spending it in the relief of the saints and in the service of God. The widows whom Dorcas clothed, the prophets whom Obadiah fed, the apostle whom Onesiphorus visited, and Phebe succored, with all those brethren and strangers whom Gaius brought forward on their missionary journeys, will be witnesses of their charity and piety before the great white throne.

It is true the disciples were poor; but the poor, by the gift of two mites, show more love to God than the rich by large contributions out of their abundance. The Lord knows that he who is faithful in the least would be faithful in much. That poor widow who cast her mites into the treasury will be intrusted with true riches in the world to come.

Riches are only lent to the possessor, not given. This is the meaning of the verse--"If you have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?" Every possession is now, as if it were another man's--it is only lent. Hereafter a possession will be bestowed upon the righteous, even an inheritance that fades not away. As riches are only lent, an account of the use to which they have been applied will be required. What account will those render who willfully devote any part of their property to the service of Mammon, the god of this world? Whatever is spent in the encouragement of sin is spent in the service of Mammon. There are some people who employ part of their money in doing good and part in promoting evil. They attempt to serve God and Mammon. They support Sunday-schools and Bible societies with part of their property, and with another part they encourage those worldly amusements, and that proud display, which are condemned in the word of God. But those who really love their crucified Savior cannot act thus. The apostle Paul declares, "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world."

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/favell-lee-mortimer/luke-169-13-christ-exhorts-his-disciples-to-be-faithful-in-the-use-of-riches/>

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