

# **STEWARDSHIP AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

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I had mixed emotions when I read *Stewardship and The Kingdom of God*, written by Ronald Walborn and Frank Chan. Drs. Walborn and Chan stated, and I also firmly believe we are only stewards of everything we possess. The Holman Bible Dictionary defines stewardship as "utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation."

In Genesis 1:27, God created human beings and entrusted them with stewardship over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the livestock, the wild animals, and all His creation; we are responsible for everything on earth. Nothing belongs to us. We have been given an important assignment (stewardship) that should be treated seriously. Our stewardship is caretakers of our families, communities, animals, and the environment.

"Seek first the kingdom and His righteousness, and these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). We must be about our Father's business just as Jesus was, focusing less on material blessings. For we brought nothing into this world and will take nothing with us when we leave this life (1 Timothy 6:7). When we seek to do the will of the Father, and His righteousness, every other thing will be granted us. God's work is a priority.

As God's chosen, we are stewards and are obligated to manage the financial gifts God gives us. The parable of the talents and the separation of the sheep from goats in Matthew 25:14-44 shows us we will be held accountable for our stewardship. Therefore we must work as unto the Lord, sow bountifully, and be faithful in giving and caring for the poor, widows, and homeless, taking care of the sick, visiting the prisons, and sharing Jesus' living water with the thirsty.

I am a good steward of God's belongings, so the last part of the article was hard for me to comprehend. After reading, I felt accursed; I lifted the article to God as Hezekiah lifted the letter from Sennacherib and asked Him to help me write this paper because God sent me to buy a home without money. He sent me to buy a car with no money and paid it off at the height of Covid 19 when I wasn't working, and he sent me to Alliance Theology Seminary, financed by student loans.

Early the next morning, God woke me up after I lifted the paper and told me, "I am the Lord Almighty. Is there anything too hard for me to do? It is not hopefully, but surely, I can turn any situation around. My mercy endures forever." As I knelt in God's presence, listening, I was reminded that without student loans, we would not have many doctors to care for us. Student loans are the only way 99.9% of black and less fortunate individuals from different races can attain higher education.

As believers, we must fix our eyes not on what is seen but on what is unseen, for what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal (2 Corinthians 4:18); God. God sent Elijah to a poor widow who had nothing and told him, "Go to Zarephath; I have directed a widow to take care of you" (1 Kings 17: 10). God knew the widow didn't even have food for herself or her son, yet He sent Elijah to her because He knew He could trust her to do His will and share what little she had. She trusted God, did what the prophet told her, and because of her obedience, she had food throughout the famine for her family and Elijah too. When Jesus sent out the seventy-two disciples, He told them, "Do not take a purse or bag or sandals" (Luke 10:7); they went with nothing, and God provided. "Faith is being sure of what we hope for, certain of what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1). "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who

comes to Him must believe that he exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him”  
(Hebrews 11:6).

Let us train up Godly stewards to go against the culture,<sup>1</sup> to live by faith and do the will of God, believing in God’s mighty works, so that they are not asked, "Do you finally believe?" (John 16:31) because where God guides, He provides.

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<sup>1</sup> Walborn, Ronald & Chan, Frank, Stewardship and the Kingdom of God, The Christian and Mission Alliance, Colorado Springs, CO, 2001, p.41

## Bibliography

- Bugg, Charles, Holman Bible Dictionary, Broadman & Holman, 1991,  
<https://www.studylight.org/dictionaries/eng/hbd/s/stewardship.html>, Accessed, 03/26/23
- Walborn, Ronald & Chan, Frank, Stewardship and the Kingdom of God, The Christian and Mission Alliance, Colorado Springs, CO, 2001

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one): Thoroughly and Entirely 100 %

Quickly but completely \_\_\_\_%

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely \_\_\_\_%

Quickly and NOT Completely \_\_\_\_%

Not at all

Signed: Jennifer Skeete