

FACTS ABOUT MONEY THAT FOOLS BELIEVE
LUKE 16
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Introduction:

- Luke 16 is about money and how we use it.
- The two parables pack a powerful 1-2 punch that demolishes how fools think about money.
- The two parables are twins that fit together: “There was a rich man...”
- Both parables teach that there is a relationship between our use of money and our eternity, but fools don’t believe this.

1. I earned all my money, so it belongs to me. [Psalm 24:1–2]

[Deuteronomy 8:17–18a]

It’s not enough to just understand that all we have belongs to God. We must wholeheartedly believe it without any reservation.

2. I can do what I want with my money. [Luke 16:1–2]

Since everything belongs to God, we managers/stewards of God’s money/possessions.

3. Money is really important. [Luke 16:10–11]

4. How I use my money has nothing to do with my character. [Luke 16:10–12]

The challenge we face is our culture’s vision for money/retirement, which is very foolish.
[Luke 12:16–20]

5. I don’t serve money. My money serves me. [Luke 16:13]

Is money really morally neutral?

Because we have a selfish, sinful nature, money is a god that attracts us, captures our attention, draws us in, enslaves us, and competes with God for our worship. Money has an allure that creates an appetite for self-gratification.

6. There is nothing wrong with loving money. [Luke 16:14–15]

[1 Timothy 6:9–10]

Fools are wrong. Loving money is a grievous sin that leads to many other sins.

7. The Bible is irrelevant to how I use my money. [Luke 16:16–17; 29–31]

“everyone forces his way into [the kingdom]”

- many people are earnestly responding to Jesus

OR

- ESV note: “everyone is forcible urged into it”

Main point: The Law and the Prophets show us how God wants us to use his money.

[Deuteronomy 15:11] [Proverbs 21:13] [Isaiah 58:6–7]

The next verse seems totally out of context **[Luke 16:18]**

(Nothing in this chapter prepares us to hear about marriage/divorce.)

- an example of how the Pharisees were not following Law and Prophets?

- an illustration: as marriage is permanent, so are the moral laws of the OT?

- Jesus is the true interpreter of God’s word and they need to listen?

8. Since I can’t take my money with me, I might as well enjoy it all while I’m alive. [Luke 16:19–21]

9. How I use my money says nothing about my spiritual health. [Luke 16:22–24]

We are saved by faith, not by how we use our money; but “How we handle wealth in this age indicates whether we will participate in the age to come.” - Tom Schreiner

[1 John 3:17]

[Ezekiel 16:49]

10. The poor are needy. I am not. [Luke 16:25–26]

This is a parable that is not necessarily teaching details about the afterlife.

The rich are more needy than the poor.

Randy Alcorn: “Seeking fulfillment in money, land, houses, cars, clothes, boats, campers, hot tubs, world travel, and cruises has left us bound and gagged by materialism—and like drug addicts, we pathetically think that our only hope lies in getting more of the same.”

11. I don’t need the Bible to tell me what to do with my money. [Luke 16:27–29 and 30–31]

We are the rich: **1 Timothy 6:17–19]**

[Proverbs 19:17]

Conclusion:

Questions to consider or discuss:

- 1) Are you comfortable with how much of God’s money you are giving away?
- 2) If Jesus clearly told you to give away all your money, would you do it?
(Did you have to think about it?)
- 3) What do you think of Randy Alcorn’s quote (above)?
- 4) Do you agree that we have a greater need to give than the poor have to receive?
- 5) What are some of the ways you have given away God’s money that have brought you joy?
- 6) What are some of the ministries/missionaries you are excited to give to?
- 7) Read 1 John 3:17 and discuss it.
- 8) Read 1 Timothy 6:17–19 and discuss it.