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THE SURE WORD By Jonnie Hutchison

ARE YOU BEING A GOOD STEWARD?

Those who have accepted the salvation offered through the blood of Jesus are stewards of what God has placed in their trust. A steward is one who takes care of the possessions of another. The Bible says, "Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful." Are you being a good steward?

God has given you the stewardship of your soul. You are both body and soul. Inspiration refers to this as the "outward man" (physical body) and the "inward man" (spirit or soul). 2 Corinthians 4:16 tells us, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day." Physical death is the separation of the soul or spirit from the physical body. James 2:26 reads, "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." At death, the physical body goes to the grave but the spiritual part of oneself lives on. This life is the only time that any of us have to prepare for what comes after death (Hebrews 9:27). God has given you free will to make your own choices in this life. You can choose to serve Him by accepting His offer of salvation from sin or you can choose to reject His plan for your salvation. Your choice now will determine where you exist in eternity (Matthew 25:46). Those who obey the gospel and live as faithful servants of the Lord will enter the joy of heaven. Those who disobey God, rejecting His love and mercy, will experience the horrors of hell (Matthew 25:30; 2 Thess. 1:9). Yes, God has given you stewardship of your soul/ Are you being a faithful and good steward?

If you are a parent, God has given you stewardship of your children. Parents have the responsibility to provide for the physical needs of their children, to love and guide them in preparation for life. Providing a stable and loving environment will help prepare them to face the challenges of life. The greater responsibility of parents is to bring their children up in the training and admonition (discipline) of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). As good stewards, parents will set an example for their children of faithfulness to God. Yes, God has given you as a parent the stewardship of your children. Are you being a good and faithful steward?

We are all stewards of what God has placed in our trust. Let us strive to be good and faithful stewards so that at the end of our stewardship we will hear the words "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21).