



NOVEMBER 2024 MESSAGE: MONTH OF

STEWARDSHIP APPRECIATION

ISSUE #1 | VOLUME 11

Well done good and faithful servant, because you have been faithful in a very little, I give you authority over ten cities. Lk. 19. 17.

We bless the Lord for all He did for us in the first ten months of this year. We are now in the penultimate month of a year that has gone so fast with speed and pleasant surprises. The Lord has determined that this would be *our month of Stewardship Appreciation or the appreciation of stewards.*

Stewardship is the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. God calls us all to be responsible and conscientious managers of all the huge resources He has placed in the earth and especially those with which He has individually endowed us (Lk 19. 13). Unfortunately, many do not even appreciate or know their God-given talents and gifts. Only those who work to discover, develop and deploy their gifts can be called responsible stewards.

The Bible makes a distinction between a son and a servant. It says that when a son is immature, his rights and privileges are entrusted to a steward. He would keep and manage these privileges in trust until the son grows up or matures to establish his authority over his own inheritance (Gal. 4. 1-2). The Lord expects us to be good (diligent, excellent) and faithful stewards who ensure a high rate of return on His investment in us for His kingdom purposes.

From scripture to modern times there are examples of stewards that exercised great authority over their master's resources, even more than sons. This was the story of Abraham's and Potiphar's servants who became stewards. They managed practically all the resources of their master. One found and brought a wife for his master's son! The other said the only thing his master, Potiphar excluded from his authority was his wife, ...but a responsible and conscientious steward Joseph refused to take her when she constantly and daily offered herself (Gen. 24. 1-3, 39.4-10)!

A steward is required to be found faithful. (1 Cor. 4.2) They are rewarded for their diligence and trustworthiness by those who appointed them.

This still happens to great and accomplished Chief Executive/Operating Officers (CEOs/COOs). They receive huge rewards and bonuses in today's mega businesses. Our God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek and serve Him in this world and in the world to come. (Heb. 11.4- 6). This is the season when He's going to be rewarding faithful stewards of kingdom opportunities and resources beyond their wildest expectations. *It is a time to please position yourself for His pleasant surprises.* On the other hand, those who fritter the Master's resources are seriously censured by the Lord as in His last parable of the kingdom before going to the cross (Lk. 19. 11-27).

Let us *join the Lord to reward those who labor to make our lives more blessed and better in our families, ministries and businesses.* The end time is a period of greed, godlessness and wickedness but it is also a time of great innovations and charitable deeds in which the Lord rewards the faithful with speed and pleasant surprises (2 Tim 3. 1-5, Amos 9.13). Expect the Lord to crown your year with abundant harvest, support, sweetness and favor from unexpected quarters as you serve God and man with diligence and excellence in this season (Ps. 65.11).

Finally, some key nations go to the polls this month. It should be a season for voters to reward faithful stewards of the Lord's resources and penalize those who were not or who promote unrighteous programs and policies in our nations. As God's people we should never stay away from engaging in the socio-economic and political processes of our nations (Jer. 29. 4-7, Rom. 13. 1-8).

Welcome to the month of Stewardship Appreciation.

D. Olowu/ October 27, 2024