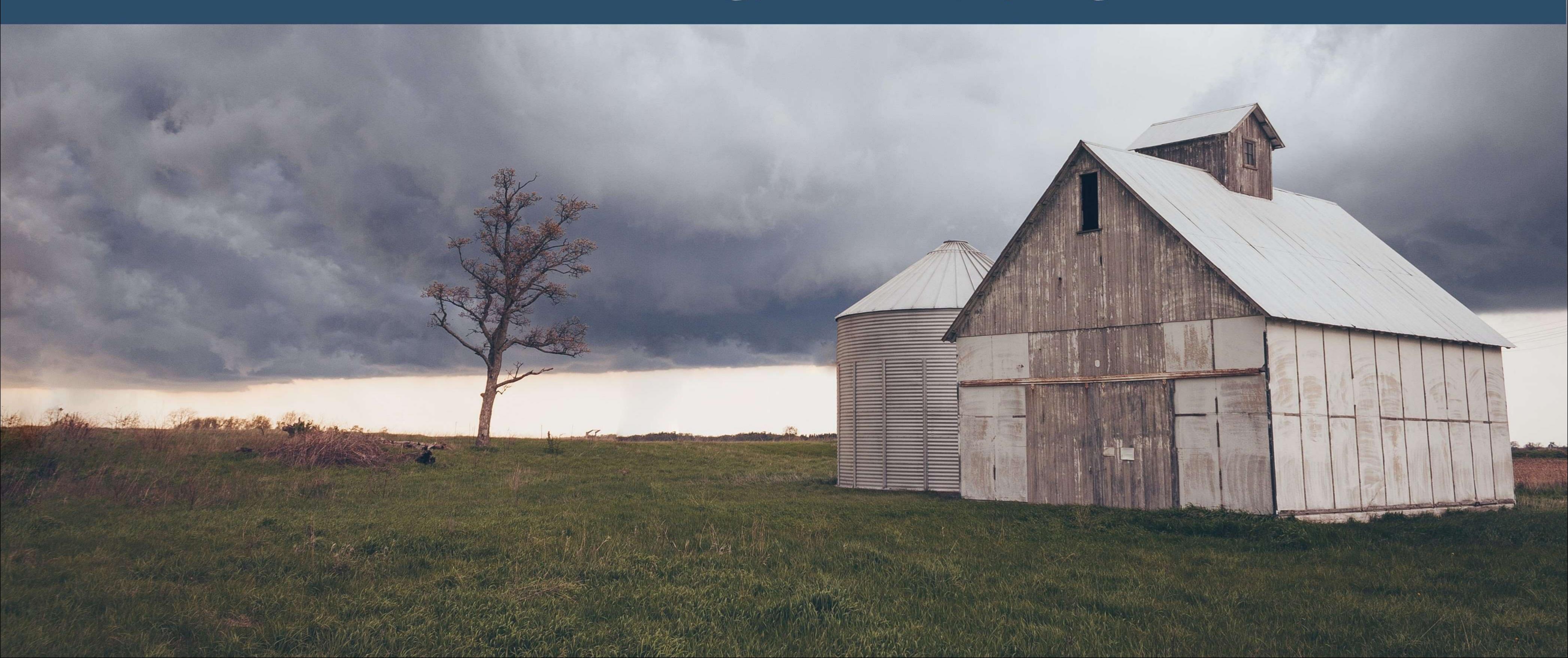
The High Privilege of Being God's Steward:

A Biblical Theology for Enjoying "Stuff"



This is a sermon about honor, worship, and service properly rendered to God by His chosen, beloved servants here at Grace Church Williamsburg.

"Walk as children of the light... trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord." (Ephesians 5: 8, 10)

- I. BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP
 - A. God Owns All Things

• All of creation belongs to God (Psalm 24:1; 89:11)

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- All things come from, come through, and are for Christ (Romans 11:36)
- God created and owns all things (Revelation 4:11)

B. You are a Steward of What God Entrusts to You

A steward is anyone who acts as the "manager of a household or estate."

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A biblical steward has a stewardship from God which involves the "careful management of the resources of the kingdom of God which have been entrusted to a person or group."

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While anyone can be a steward, Peter tells us that believers have a special stewardship of the manifold (multifaceted) grace of God—His gifts of special enablement by the Holy Spirit at work in us.

A biblical steward belongs to God and manages what belongs to God (money, people, spiritual gifts, truth, time, material gifts)— everything that God gives to us.

- II. BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES FOR STEWARDSHIP
 - A. A Greedy Fool Lays Up Treasures on Earth (Luke 12:13-14)

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 - With God (v14): This was God's money by God's right (Psalm 89:11)

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 - Make no mistake and do not be deceived: the idol of "more" is an issue of your heart's worship, just as it is with any other sins in your live.

The poisoned perspective illustrated (Luke 12:16-22)

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"The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity." (Luke 8:14)

The poisoned perspective illustrated (Luke 12:16-22)

"Not even when one has an abundance does his life (zoe) consist of his possessions."

Living is not in the owning of earthly things.

B. A Grateful Follower Lays Up Treasures in Heaven (Luke 12:22-34)

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The Do Nots of Faithful Stewardship (how to enjoy your earthly stuff)

Coming next Sunday...

GRACE CHURCH WILLIAMSBURG