

1. Definition:

- steward

**3623 οἰνόμοσ** *oikonomos*

= the manager of a household

= one to whom the head of the house or the proprietor has entrusted the management of his affairs

- stewardship

**3622 οἰκονομία** *oikonomia*

= the management, oversight or administration of another's property

Christian (biblical) stewardship = "recognizes that God's resources are to be deployed through God's people to accomplish God's mission."

- [www.churchofscotland.org.uk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk)- Church and Society

2. God is ultimately the owner of all that is; He owns everyone who dwells on earth; He owns everything we have and will yet have (Ps 24:1)

3. As Christians God also has a claim on our lives in Christ

- Christ is our Creator

- He purchased us with His blood

- He is our God-anointed Lord

- therefore everything that we are, our whole life, is Christ's

(Ac 17:24-28a; Col 1:16;

1 Pe 1:18-19; Eph 1:20-23; Ac 10:36; Ro 10:12)

4. We Christians (true disciples) have all been made stewards (managers, administrators) of God's resources (possessions, assets)

5. God has entrusted them to us

**4100 πιστεύω** *pisteuo*

= to believe (239x)

= to commit in trust to someone

= to entrust to someone's fidelity

→ in order to care for, to keep, to guard

6. What is required of us stewards is that we be faithful or trustworthy because

a) we are responsible for what is not ours

b) we must carry out our stewardship according to the will and ways of God

c) we will give an account of our stewardship at the judgment seat of Christ

(1 Cor 4:2)

7. We have all been, to one degree or another, entrusted with the true **GOSPEL**

a) to know it deeply, ready to explain it

b) to keep it pure, undistorted and unadulterated

c) to preach it to every creature

d) to see that it is entrusted to faithful stewards from one generation to the next

(1 Cor 4:1; 1 Cor 9:16-17; Eph 3:2; Col 1:25)

8. As good stewards we must manage the **TIME** entrusted to us wisely

→ we are to make the most of our time and every opportunity

**1805 ἐξαγοράζω** *exagorazo*

= to redeem

= to buy up for oneself, for one's use

... to make wise and sacred use of every opportunity for doing good, so that zeal and well doing are, as it were, the purchase money by which we make the time our own

(Eph 5:15-17; Col 4:5-6)

9. We are to be good stewards of the **SPIRITUAL GIFTS** that we have received with which to serve one another

a) if we have speaking gifts, we are to speak the words of God

b) if we have serving gifts, we are to serve by the strength which God supplies

(1 Pet 4:10-11)

10. We are to be good stewards of our possessions and the financial means that have been entrusted to us: **GIVING**