

DAMEG Y GORUCHWYLIWR ANONEST.

Emyn: 64 *'Tydi sy deilwng oll o'm cân.'*

Darlleniad: Luc 16:1-13.

Mae'r ddameg yn sôn am oruchwyliwr anonest a gwastraffus sydd ar fin colli ei swydd. Nid ydyw'n gwybod beth mae'n mynd i wneud pe bai'n colli ei swydd, felly mae'n galw (o leiaf) dau o ddyledwyr ei meistr ac yn derbyn llai na'r gofyn er mwyn clirio eu dyled. Oherwydd iddo ddelio gyda'r cyfrifon yma mae'r meistr yn ei gymeradwyo 'am iddo weithredu yn gall'.

A. CWESTIYNAU PWYSIG BYWYD.

Gadewch i ni ddeall: i) Nid gosod cyfarwyddiadau ar gyfer busnes mae Iesu yma; ii) Nid cymeradwyo pobl am fod yn anonest chwaith y gwna Iesu. Mae'r Iesu am i ni ystyried:

1. Y byddwn yn atebol i'r Arglwydd am yr hyn rydym wedi gwneud mewn bywyd.
2. A ydym wedi paratoi am fywyd ar ôl marw ac yn brofiadol o fywyd tragwyddol?

Mae'r goruchwyliwr i'w gymeradwyo (nid am fod yn anonest) ond am iddo weld yr hyn oedd yn mynd i ddigwydd yn ei fywyd a gwneud trefniadau priodol.

Mae'n ystyried cwestiwn pwysig yn ei fywyd sef, *'Beth ydoedd yn mynd i wneud pe bai'n colli ei swydd? Mae'n cydnabod ei fod yn rhy wan yn gorfforol i wneud gwaith fel labrwr ac mae'n rhy falch i gardota ar y stryd. Nid ydyw'n gobeithio y bydd y broblem yn diflannu'n sydyn nac yn gwneud yn fach o'r sefyllfa gan ddweud, "O bydd pob dim yn iawn mewn amser!" Na, mae'n cydnabod bod ei feistr wedi darganfod ei gam-ymddygiad, ac yn awr roedd rhaid iddo roi cyfrif am ei weithredoedd!*

A ydym ninnau wedi ystyried rhai o gwestiynau mawr bywyd neu a ydym yn ceisio eu hanwybyddu? Dyma rhai ohonynt:

Pam ydwyf yma ar y ddaear? Beth yw ystyr/pwrpas bywyd? Sut math o fywydau dylwn fod yn byw – a fyddwn yn atebol rhyw ddydd? Beth sy'n digwydd ar ôl i ni farw?

A oes nefoedd a bywyd ar ôl marwolaeth – bywyd tragwyddol?

B. PARATOI AM Y DYFODOL.

Nid yn unig gwnaeth y goruchwyliwr ystyried cwestiwn mawr yn ei fywyd ond fe wnaeth baratoi am y dyfodol. Ni wnaeth guddio ei sefyllfa, na cheisio dylanwadu ar ei feistr i anwybyddu ei ddrwg. Roedd yn pryderu am ei ddyfodol ac fe wnaeth gymryd camau ar gyfer hyn. Mae'n wir i ddweud bod cymaint o bobl yn gwneud paratoadau

ar gyfer eu bywydau - yswisiant bywyd, yswiriant iechyd, yswiriant i dalu'r mortgais ac ati, (pethau pwysig) ond heb feddwl am baratoi ar gyfer eu heneidiau! Trwy setlo cyfrifion rhai o ddyledwyr ei feistr, yr hyn roedd y goruchwyliwr anonest yn gwneud oedd sicrhau ffrindiau i'w hunan, er mwyn derbyn 'croeso i gartrefi pobl' pan fyddai'n cael ei ddiswyddo! (4). Gofalodd am ei ddyfodol.

Mae'r Beibl yn ein dysgu y bydd rhaid i bob un ohonom ymddangos gerbron yr Arglwydd rhyw ddydd, gan roi cyfrif am yr hyn rydym wedi gwneud yn ein bywydau. A ydym yn barod i gyfarfod ag Iesu, y Barnwr Cyfiawn? **Sut allwn fod yn barod?** Rhaid derbyn a chredu yn Iesu, yr hwn yw'r ffordd, y gwirionedd a'r bywyd. Iesu yw'r ffordd at y Tad a'r nefoedd, Iesu yw'r gwirionedd, heb dwyll na chelwydd, ac Iesu yw'r bywyd, yr un sy'n rhoi bywyd bythol! A ydym yn ei adnabod?

C. PROFION BYWYD.

Pa arwyddion sydd ein bod yn barod i gyfarfod â'r Arglwydd ac i brofi bywyd yn y nef?

i) **Arian:** Sut wnawn ddefnyddio ein harian? A wnawn dwyllo a dweud celwydd, er mwyn ennill mwy o arian? Neu, gwnawn ei ddefnyddio, fel stiwardiaid da o'r hyn

rydym wedi ei dderbyn o Dduw, i ennill eraill at Iesu ac i fywyd bythol? A wnawn ei ddefnyddio yn iawn, er mwyn bwydo'r newynog a rhoi dŵr i'r sychedig? Ei ddefnyddio er mwyn dilladu'r noeth a chroesawu dieithriaid?

ii) **O'r Lleiaf i'r Mwyaf:** Yn adnod 10 mae Iesu yn ein dysgu, os nad ydym yn gywir gyda phethau lleiaf y byd (rhyw gyfoeth bach daearol), pa ddisgwyl sydd i Dduw roi i ni 'gwir olud' sef cyfoeth ysbrydol, ffydd, gobaith, cariad.

iii) **Duw ag Arian: Beth yw ein hagwedd tuag at arian?** A ydyw'n feistr (duw) ar ein bywydau neu yn cael ei ddefnyddio er gwasanaeth a gogoniant i Dduw? **A ydym wedi ystyried cwestiynau mawr bywyd? A ydym wedi paratoi am y dyfodol, a'r nef?** Gwnawn ddangos hyn yn ein ffordd o fyw!

Gwedd: O Dad Nefol, er holl wybodaeth y byd presennol, gwnawn gydnabod nad ydym yn gwybod pob dim. Ond diolch dy fod wedi dangos i ni digon, er mwyn dod i dy adnabod di. Rwyf wedi datguddio dy hun trwy'r greadigaeth a thrwy hanes ond yn bennaf rwyf wedi dangos dy hun yn Iesu. Diolch, mai ynddo Ef y cawn dy wir adnabod a'th garu, a phrofi o fywyd bythol yn dy gwmni rhy ddydd. Cadw ni oll a'n hanwyliaid yn ddiogel ac yn iach. Yn enw Iesu, Amen.

THE PARABLE OF THE DISHONEST MANAGER.

Hymn: 948 *'Guide me, O thou great Jehovah.'*

Reading: Luke 16:1-13.

This parable speaks of a manager who was both wasteful and dishonest, and about to lose his position. He does not know what else he could do if he were to lose his work, so he calls (at least) two of his master's debtors and agrees to reduce their debt so as to settle their account with his master. For dealing shrewdly with these accounts he was commended by his master.

A. IMPORTANT QUESTIONS IN LIFE.

Let us understand: i) Jesus is not laying down instructions for good business here; ii) Neither does Jesus commend people for being dishonest. Jesus wants us to consider:

1. We will all be accountable to God one day for all that we have done in this life; 2. Are we making good provision for life after death and are we to experience eternal life? The manager was commended (not for being dishonest) but because he saw the issues involved in his life and he made suitable arrangements.

He considers an important question in his life, which was, "What am I to do if I do lose my position as manager?" He acknowledges that he is too weak to do manual work and too proud to beg on the streets. He does not wish away his current situation and neither does he make light of his circumstances, saying, "It will be alright in the end!" No, he admits that his master has found out his dishonesty and that now he has to give account for his actions.

Have we considered some of the important questions in life or are we trying to avoid/ignore them? Here are some: Why are we here on earth and what is the meaning/purpose of life? What kind of lives should we live – will we be accountable for our lives one day? What happens to us after death? Is there a heaven and life everlasting?

B. PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE.

Not only did the manager consider an important question in his life, but he did something about it by preparing for the future. He made no attempts to hide his situation, neither did he try to influence his master into ignoring his wrongdoing. He did care what would happen to himself, and as a result, he made certain provision for his future. It is true that many people make provision for their lives – life insurance, health insurance, mortgage protection, and

so forth (and rightly so), yet do not make provision for their souls! By settling the accounts of his master's debtors, what the dishonest master was attempting was to secure that he had friends who would '*receive him into their houses,*' if he were to lose his work, (verse 4). He was making provision for his future!

The Bible teaches us that one day all of us will have to appear before the Lord and give an account of what we have done with our lives. **Are we ready to meet with Jesus, the Perfect Judge? How can we be ready?** We have to receive and believe in Jesus, who is the way, the truth and the life. Jesus is the way to the Father and heaven. Jesus is the truth; He does not lie or deceive. Jesus is the life, the one who gives life everlasting. Do we know him as Lord?

C. SIGNS OF FAITH.

What signs are there in our lives that we are ready to meet with Jesus and experience life everlasting with him?

i) **Money:** How do we use our wealth/money? Do we cheat and deceive, so as to gain more money? Or are we good stewards of that which God has given us, and we use it to win others to Christ, so that they also may experience life everlasting? Do we use our wealth as Jesus

asks us, to feed the poor and give water to the thirsty? Do we use God given wealth to clothe the naked and to extend a welcome to those in need, to our homes?

ii) **From the Lesser to the Greater:** In verse 10 Jesus teaches us, if we are not faithful with the little things of life (some small earthly wealth), how can we expect God to give us 'true riches,' spiritual wealth? Faith, hope, love.

iii) **God and Money:** What is our attitude towards money? Is it the master (a god) of our lives or do we use it for the glory of God and for his service?

Have we considered the important questions of life or are we avoiding them? Are we making provision for heaven and life eternal? The signs are there in our daily lives.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, despite all the knowledge of the present time, we admit that we do not know everything. However, we do thank you, that you have revealed sufficiently, so that we may come to know and love you. You reveal yourself in your creation and in history, and primarily through your Son Jesus. We give thanks that through Him we can come to truly know you and to love you. Continue to care for and keep us safe during these difficult times. Hear our prayer, in Jesus name, Amen.

