

OUR ROLE IN GOD'S WORLD GENESIS 1:26-28

Who and what are we in this world? What is our role and responsibility in the world? These are important questions to which answers are found in the Word of God. In fact, there is a position in the ancient world that is used in both the Old and New Testament that illustrates our role in the world and our responsibility to God. That position is a steward. Understanding the role of a steward in the Biblical world will help us understand our role in the modern world.

I. THE ROLE OF AN ANCIENT STEWARD.

A. The Basic Meaning.

1. A steward was one who manages the resources of someone else.
2. This was a position of trust, authority and responsibility.

B. The Biblical Examples.

1. In the Old Testament. Gen. 15:2; 43:19.
2. In the New Testament. Matt. 20:8; Luke 16:1; Luke 8:3.

C. The Biblical Application. 1 Cor. 4:2.

* In a general way every human is a steward of God, but Christians are in a very particular way. *

II. THE ROLE OF A CHRISTIAN STEWARD.

A. Our Position in God's World.

1. We are entrusted with His resources.
2. We are to represent His interests in the world.

B. Our Resources from God.

1. The environment. Gen. 1:26-28; Ps. 24:1.
2. The talents and gifts in our lives. 1 Cor. 4:7; 1 Pet. 4:10.
3. The gospel of Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 4:1.
4. The resources we have. Luke 16:1.
5. The life that we live. 1 Cor. 6:19,20.

* This includes all that we are and all that we have. *

C. Our Attitude in Life.

1. The world in which we live belongs to the Lord.
2. The God of glory has entrusted us with life and his resources.
3. The resources in our trust are to be used for the glory of God, the growth of God's kingdom and the good of man.
4. We are accountable to the Lord for what has been placed in our trust. 1 Cor. 4:1-5.
 - a. We are to be faithful and trustworthy to him.
 - b. We are to please him instead of impressing man.
 - c. We long to hear him say, "Well done" when we stand before him.

