

# How can we make friends by ‘unrighteous’ riches?

When Jesus advised his disciples at Luke 16:9: “Also, I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the unrighteous riches, so that, when such fail, they may receive you into the everlasting dwelling places,” some may wonder why Jesus’ followers would have anything unrighteous. Others may wonder if he suggested buying friendship.

What are the unrighteous riches? How can Christians make friends by means of them? And what does that have to do with “everlasting dwelling places?”

The unrighteous riches are what they sound like, money, material possessions, physical things. Why are they unrighteous?

Consider the example of the nation of Israel. When God miraculously delivered them from Egypt, they took riches with them. Exodus 12:35, 36 says, “The people of Israel



sharon  
corcoran

- use it or lose it

had also done as Moses told them, for they had asked of the Egyptians jewelry of silver and of gold, and clothing; and the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they despoiled the Egyptians.”

Obviously, it wasn’t wrong for them to have such “unrighteous riches,” for God motivated the Egyptians to give them those things. But they used them for an unrighteous purpose, as is recorded in Exodus 32, where the people grew impatient and asked Aaron to use the

tells us at Exodus 19:25-20:3: “So Moses went down to the people and told them. And God spoke all these words saying, ‘I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me.’”

The way the Israelites used the riches God motivated the Egyptians to give them was what was unrighteous. Later, the nation of Israel chose to use its riches properly.

In Exodus 35, Moses told the people God had commanded a contribution to be taken to construct the tabernacle for his worship. Verses 4-9 list some of the items to be collected from anyone who is of “generous heart.”

God asked his people to willingly contribute to his worship, and they did. By doing so, they made friends

by means of the unrighteous riches. They used their material possessions for good rather than for bad.

How can we make friends by means of our unrighteous riches? Do we need to have gold and silver and fancy possessions to do so?

At Luke 21:1-4, Jesus pointed out a widow who dropped two small coins into the treasury chests at the temple. He said she gave more than the rich because she gave all she had, rather than out of her surplus.

This shows that God and Jesus value donations of all sizes that are given eagerly by those who want to do all they can. So having an abundance materially is not required to gain their friendship.

Among the ways we can make friends by means of the unrighteous riches is to donate our time and money to help to accomplish God’s work. Jesus said at Matthew 24:14, “And this good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations; and then the end will come.”

Do we help with preaching the good news of the kingdom? When we donate, does the money go toward preaching that message or to

buy Cadillacs and fancy clothing for a minister or televangelist?

Another way we can make friends by means of the unrighteous riches is to help ones in need as the Apostle Paul urged Christians at 2 Corinthians 8:14: “but that by means of an equalizing your surplus just now might offset their deficiency, in order that their surplus might also come to offset your deficiency, that an equalizing might take place.”

How does this help us make friends with God and with Jesus? Proverbs 19:17 tells us: “He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.”

Why is the way we use our resources so important?

Jesus said in Luke 16, quoted above, that the riches would fail and that those we make friends with would receive us into “everlasting dwelling places.”

Ezekiel 7:19 tells us of the time when riches will fail: “They cast their silver into the streets, and their gold is like an unclean thing; their silver and gold are not able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD. . . .”

The day of God’s wrath is described in the book of Revelation. Chapter 21:1-5 tells us what will follow that “day”: “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

“And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a great voice from the throne saying, ‘Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them and he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away.’ And he who sat on the throne said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’”

We can be received into everlasting dwelling in that new heaven or new earth only if we have made wise use of our time and money to preach God’s kingdom and teach others about it and to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

## matters of record

### Real Estate

The following real estate transfers have been reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Donald W. Wieck, trustee of the Donald W. Wieck Trust, to James W. Baker and Vicki Gebhardt Baker 1/2 interest in and to the SE/4 of Sec. 5 and the NE/4 of Sec. 8, T6S, R40W.

Megan Brooke Darrah quit claim to Carol Joy Darrah 1/6 interest in the S/2 of Sec. 28, T8S, R37W.

Drew Thomas Darrah quit claim to Carol Joy Darrah 1/6 interest in the S/2 of Sec. 28, T8S, R37W.

Kenneth E. and Janet L. Davis to Joseph H. and JoAnn Wahrman the N/2 of Sec. 12, T7S, R40W, minus a tract.

Donald W. Wieck, trustee of the Betty L. Wieck Trust, to James W. Baker and Vicki Gebhardt Baker 1/2 interest in and to the SE/4 of Sec. 5 and the NE/4 of Sec. 8, T6S, R40W.

Joseph E. Russell to Misty Milke Lots 24 and 25, Block 25, First Addition to the City of Goodland.

Elmer M. and Viola L. Jacobs quit claims to Terri J. Hage Lots 6 and 7, Block 51, Original Town of Goodland.

Terri J. Hage quit claims to Terri J. Hage and Ronald Lee Weiss Lots 6 and 7, Block 51, Original Town of Goodland.

John H. and Marcia L. Golden to John H. Golden and Eugene P. Zuspänn II, trustees of the John H. Golden Trust, the E/2 of the SW/4 of Sec. 24, T8S, R40W.

Peggy L. King and Sally Jo and Greg J. Pettibone to Sally Jo Pettibone and Sherry Lou Wilkerson Lots 11, 12 and 13, Block 19, Rule’s First Addition to Kanorado.

Peggy L. King and Sally Jo and Greg J. Pettibone to Greg J. and Sally Jo Pettibone Lots 5, 6 and 7, Block 20, Hartstine’s Second Addition to the Town of Kanorado.

Beverly Frailey, conservator for Alma Wandersee, to Marshall and Samantha Siruta the W70’ of the S20’ of Lot 10 and the W70’ of Lots 11 and 12, Block 13, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

Melvin Sieck and First National

Bank of Goodland, trustees of the William Sieck Revocable Trust, to Mark William Sieck the NW/4 of Sec. 6, T8S, R37W.

Melvin Sieck and First National Bank of Goodland, trustees of the William Sieck Revocable Trust, to Michael J. and Teresa K. Sieck the SW/4 of Sec. 35, T7S, R38W.

Kenneth and Doris Bellamy quit claim to Jack and Marlys Bellamy the S/2 of the NW/4 of the S/2 of the N/2 of the NW/4 of Sec. 5, T10S, R41W.

Dean A. Skaer to Dean A. Skaer, trustee of the Dean A. Skaer Revocable Trust, 1/4 interest in Lots 3 and 4 and the E/2 of the SW/4 of Sec. 30, T7S, R41W.

Karen K. and Eldon Zimbelman of Sedgwick County to Kathleen J. Harris Lot 10, Block 3, Eastridge Addition No. 1 to the City of Goodland.

Steven T. and Kristina R. Shores to Jane Hamilton the S10’ of Lot 5 and all of Lot 6, Block 31, Academy Addition to the City of Goodland.

Freida Nelson by Richard A. Nelson, her attorney-in-fact, to the Freida Nelson Trust 1/2 interest in and to Sec. 5, T8S, R42W; and 1/2 interest in and to Lots 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, Block 15, Rule’s Addition to the Town of Kanorado.

Ronald P. and Betty Ann Weber to Chad D. and Gwendice M. Mai Lots 9 and 10, Block 11, First Addition to the City of Goodland.

Doug Whitson, Sherman County Sheriff, to Firststar Bank, N.A., the N/2 of Lot 15 and all of Lots 16 and 17, Block 13, Third Addition to the City of Goodland, 1115 Caldwell, foreclosed property of Jerrod D. and Carrie E. Phillips.

J & L Farm Company, also know as J and L Farms, a Nebraska General Partnership; Joe Bellamy and Lloydelle Bellamy, individually and doing business as J & L Farm Co., to J & L Bellamy Limited a tract in the NW/4 of Sec. 30, T8S, R39W; the N/2 and the SW/4 of Sec. 34, T10S, R40W; 1/2 interest in all gas, oil and other hydrocarbon substances located in, on or under the NW/4 and the SE/4 of Sec. 19, T10S, R39W.

# Worship warms the heart



### Calvary Gospel Church

**Pastor:** Rev. Steve Rains  
Fourth & College • 899-3605  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:15 am  
Morning Service: 10:30 am  
Small Group Ministries  
**Wednesday:** Prayer and Worship: 7:00 p.m.  
Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.

### Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**Pastor:** Father Norbert Dlabal  
307 W. 13th • 899-7205  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment  
**Mass Schedule:**  
**Saturday:** 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am  
**Spanish Mass:**  
1st & 3rd Sunday: 2 pm

### Sonrise Christian Church

Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398  
**Minister:** Tony Kafka  
**Youth Minister:** Doug Bean  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Sunday School: 10:45 am  
**Wednesday:**  
Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm  
Adult & Children’s Classes: 7 pm

### Word of Life

### Joursquare Church

10th & Clark • 899-5250  
**Pastor:** John Coumerilh  
**Service Schedule:**  
**Sunday:** Worship Celebration  
and Kids’ Church: 10:30 am  
First Wednesday: K.W.A.M.!  
Grades 1 through 5: 7 p.m.

### Pleasant Home Church

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**Pastor:** Charlie Busch  
694-2242  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 9 am  
Sunday School: 10 am  
Evening Service: 6 pm

### Bible Baptist Church

**Pastor:** Glenn Hermanson  
Fifth & Broadway  
899-7368  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9 am  
Morning Service: 10 am  
Evening Service: 6:30 pm  
**Wednesday:** Evening Bible Study: 7 pm

### Church of Jesus Christ

**of Latter-Day Saints**  
1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO  
(719) 346-7984  
**Sacrament Meeting:** 10 am  
**Sunday School:** 11:15 am  
**Priesthood/Relief Society:** 12 am

### Iglesia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo  
Spanish Speaking Church  
**Minister:** Esteban Ortiz B.  
1601 Texas • 899-5275  
**Daily Prayer:** Sunday thru  
Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 10 am

### United Methodist Church

**Brewster:**  
**Pastor:**  
Worship Service: 10:45 am CST  
Sunday School: 9:45 am CST  
**Winona:**  
**Minister:** Rev. Bob Winters  
Worship Service: 9 am CST  
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

### First Christian Church

**(Disciples of Christ)**  
**Pastor:** Loren Strait  
Eighth & Arcade • 899-5233  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 10:30 am  
**Sunday School:** 9:15 a.m.  
**Activities:** Junior High & High School Youth Groups,  
Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men’s and Women’s Groups,  
Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship  
**Special Notice:** Handicap Accessible, Hearing  
Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler  
Nurseries Available

### Kanorado

### United Methodist Church

**Pastor:** Leonard Cox  
399-2468  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9 am  
Worship Service: 10:15 am

### Church of the Nazarene

**Pastor:** Bob Willis  
Third & Caldwell  
899-2080 or 899-3797  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 10:50 am  
Evening Service: 6 pm  
**Wednesday:** Evening Service: 7 pm

### First United Methodist Church

1116 Sherman  
899-3631  
**Pastor:** Rev. Janet Hernandez  
**Saturday:** Informal Worship: 5:30 pm  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:15 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am

### Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400  
**Pastor:** Chad DeJong  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Morning Worship: 11 am  
Evening Worship: 6 pm  
**Wednesday:** AWANA (Winter)  
and prayer: 7 p.m.

### St. Paul's Episcopal Church

13th & Center  
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969  
**Priest:** Father Hal Lycett  
**Holy Eucharist:** 10:00 a.m. Sunday  
10:00 a.m. Thursday  
**Morning Prayer:** 8:00 a.m. Wed. - Sun.  
For emergencies Wed. - Sun. 890-6969  
Sr. Warden for emergencies  
Mon. and Tues. 890-3320

### Grace Fellowship Church

104 E. Hwy 24 • 899-6423  
**Pastor:** Bob Snyder •  
Residence: 890-0134  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 10 am  
Worship Service: 11 am  
Youth Group at Gattshall’s at 5:30 pm  
Adult Bible Study 6 pm

### First Baptist Church

**Pastor:** John Meckling  
Fifth & Center • 899-3450  
**Sunday:** Sunday School for all ages:  
9:15 am (Child care provided)  
Morning Worship: 10:30 am  
**Tuesday:** Mens’ Prayer Group: 6:00 am

### Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail  
**Pastor:** Jim Martin  
**Saturday:** Sabbath School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 11 am

### Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161  
**Pastor:** Scott Grimshaw  
**Sunday:** Christian eduction/fellowship:  
10:15 a.m.  
Worship Service: 9 am  
**Wednesday:** Confirmation: 6 pm

### Church of Christ

401 Caldwell  
899-6185  
**Sunday:** Bible Study: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
**Wednesday:** Bible Study: 7 pm

## The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

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North Main

### Atens Department Store

1103 Main

### Good Samaritan Center

208 W. 2nd

### KLOE/KKCS/KWGB

3023 W. 31

### Bateman Funeral Home

211 E. 11th

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