Shrewd – having or showing sharp powers of judgment; astute (ability to notice and understand things clearly: mentally sharp or clever) ([Google Definition](https://www.google.com/search?q=define%3A+Shrewd&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS930US930&oq=define%3A+Shrewd&aqs=chrome..69i57j69i59j69i58.2463j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8))

**Synopsis of this Parable:**

Jesus is telling a story of a rich man who hired a manager to handle his affairs. One day someone reported the manager was wasting the employer’s money. The employer confronted the manager and demanded that he bring back a report of his work because he is in jeopardy of getting fired. The manager set up meetings with his employer and the debtors. He then proceeded to decrease the bills for the debtors. The employer admired the sharp thinking or “shrewd” behavior of this manager. The lesson to be learned is found in verse 9 (NLT): *Here’s the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.*

**Focal Points:**

Divine positioning – Verse 1

Accountability – Verse 2

Response – Verse 3-4

Being “shrewd” isn’t necessarily a negative trait. Earlier in this lesson, how did we define “shrewd”?

The manager may have been called a “dishonest rascal”, but at the expense of being fired, what did he accomplish with his response?

**Questions:**

1. What would you say the manager valued more, money or relationships?
2. How did the manager use his worldly resources to benefit others?
3. How is this parable relevant to us today?

Resources:

1. [Interpreting Luke’s Parable of the Shrewd Manager via a First-Century Lens](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1057/9781137315861_5)