

**THE MESSAGE OF
STEWARDSHIP: A BOOK
FOR DAILY DEVOTIONS
AND CLASS STUDY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649009022

The message of stewardship: a book for daily devotions and class study by Ralph S. Cushman

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RALPH S. CUSHMAN

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AND CLASS STUDY

By
RALPH S. CUSHMAN



THE ABINGDON PRESS
NEW YORK CINCINNATI

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Printed in the United States of America

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TO
THOSE CHRISTIAN BUSINESS MEN
OF AMERICA
WHO HAVE STOOD, AND ARE STANDING,
WITH ALL THEIR RESOURCES
OF PERSONALITY AND POSSESSIONS,
IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE BATTLE FOR THE
CHRISTIAN CONQUEST OF
THE WORLD

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PREFACE

THIS book has been written out of a deep desire to indicate more clearly the inestimable spiritual value of the stewardship message, by showing that the principle of stewardship underlies the entire message of the Old and New Testaments.

An outline of the argument as given in the following pages would point out ten definite propositions concerning stewardship: (1) that it is Jesus' philosophy of life; (2) that it is the very essence of the character of God; (3) that it is the special theme of the teachings of Jesus; (4) that "stewardship," rather than "service," is God's key word; (5) that Pentecost deepened the stewardship conviction in the minds of the disciples; (6) that the Pentecostal church laid special emphasis upon the stewardship of prayer; (7) that the ancient enemy of stewardship is covetousness; (8) that the Pentecostal stewardship consciousness was simultaneous with consecration of property to the will of God; (9) that the need of the world then, as to-day, is the application of the principle of stewardship to all life, including property and business; (10) and finally that God's approach to stewardship of material resources has always been through the dedication of a holy portion, or the tithe.

The book is proposed both for use in daily devotions and for classes in the study of stewardship. To the latter end the introductory section of each chapter will serve as the basis of study, while the daily readings will assure additional help. Material for helps for class and individual study will be found at the close of each chapter.

Special emphasis has been laid on the stewardship of business, because the practice of the principle of stewardship is the great need of the employer and the employee, if the industrial problems are to be solved.

R. S. C.