

“WHO AM I?”

(an Owner or a Steward?)

St. Paul writes [**Galatians 2:20**], *“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.”*

The idea of identifying as a steward comes by God’s design, and by His own hand. [**Genesis 1:1**] *“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”*

Some truths we know from Scripture about stewards and stewardship:

- God designed us (on purpose) to be stewards (with a purpose). He makes that clear in the very first chapter of His Book [**Genesis 1:28-31**], *“And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”*
- God designed us to be stewards of what belongs to Him.
- Possession is not ownership. Stewards cannot be owners.
- If we do not recognize God’s ownership, we will fail to be the stewards God designed and intends for us to be.

The proof of God’s ownership:

We know this by His own declaration; God says [**Job 41:11**], *“Who has first given to Me, that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine.”*

We know this by the redemption God has provided [**1 Corinthians 6:19-20**], *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, Whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”*

The dynamic nature of God’s ownership is threefold:

“For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever.” [**Romans 11:36**]

The theme of God’s ownership is a thread that runs throughout the Bible. Why is it hidden from most people?

Satan tempts us to believe that we are owners. Why is this so dangerous?

Why is it such a blessing to be a steward and not an owner?

PRAYER: Precious Savior, we thank You for all You have done for us. You created us, You redeemed us, and You sanctify us. Help us to always remember that You are the Owner. Our desire is to be faithful and fruitful stewards. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.