

Stewardship Series
January 19, 2025
8:00 am
Gehazi – Money’s Tempting Side



Zion Lutheran Church
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Sioux Falls, SD 57105
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ORDER OF WORSHIP

AS WE GATHER

Money Talks! That's the name of the three-week sermon series we're in. Today's money talk comes from 2 Kings 5. The focus? A greedy man named Gehazi.

WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 765 God Moves in a Mysterious Way

- 1 God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.
- 2 Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
Faith sees a smiling face.
- 3 His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding ev'ry hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flow'r.
- 4 Blind unbelief is sure to err
And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.
- 5 You fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds you so much dread

Are big with mercy and will break
In blessings on your head.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Godliness with contentment is great gain.

People: For we brought nothing into the world, and it is certain that we can take nothing out.

Pastor: But if we have food and clothing, we will be content.

People: People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap.

Pastor: For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

People: Some people, eager for money—

Pastor: Have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

People: Command those who are rich in this present world—

Pastor: Not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth.

People: Command them to be generous and willing to share.

Pastor: In this way we will lay up treasure for ourselves as a firm foundation for the coming age.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus says, “No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money” (Matthew 6:24) Almighty God—

People: If we are honest with you, we have a hard time believing this verse.

Pastor: We become anxious about money, and we won't let go.

People: We think we can manage it without you.

Pastor: We have a difficult time believing that you will care for us.

ALL: O God, we need your help.

Pastor: Break us open.

People: Crack our shells.

Pastor: Grant us repentance.

People: Forgive us and take us back.

Pastor: Free to be yours.

People: Free to serve in Christ's holy name.

[Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination]

Pastor: Jesus died on the cross to free us from the dark prison of greed. He rose from the dead to shatter the doors of guilt and shame. For his sake and by his command I announce to you that your sins are fully and forever forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

INTROIT: LSB 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;

Text: Public domain

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People (sing): Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: This is the Feast

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set
us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing,
and glory are His.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all
creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb
forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: O God, almighty Father, you have shown to the world
your love in the most glorious sacrifice of your beloved Son.
Fill us with this same sacrificial love that we may use our
resources for the sake of your kingdom and the salvation of
many; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.

TIME IN THE WORD

Children's Bible Reading: Page 194

Reader: Today's readings are about money's tempting side.

Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-27

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy." As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored, and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So, he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" So, he went down and dipped

himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant.” The prophet answered, “As surely as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing.” And even though Naaman urged him, he refused. “If you will not,” said Naaman, “please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD. But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I have to bow there also—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this.” “Go in peace,” Elisha said. After Naaman had traveled some distance, Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, “My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him.” So Gehazi hurried after Naaman. When Naaman saw him running toward him, he got down from the chariot to meet him. “Is everything all right?” he asked. “Everything is all right,” Gehazi answered. “My master sent me to say, ‘Two young men from the company of the prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.’” “By all means, take two talents,” said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to accept them, and then tied up the two talents of silver in two bags, with two sets of clothing. He gave them to two of his servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the things from the servants and put them away in the house. He sent the men away and they left. When he went in and stood before his master, Elisha asked him, “Where have you been, Gehazi?” “Your servant didn’t go anywhere,” Gehazi answered. But Elisha said to him, “Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money or to accept clothes—or olive groves and vineyards, or flocks and herds, or male and female slaves? Naaman’s leprosy will cling to you and to your

descendants forever.” Then Gehazi went from Elisha’s presence and his skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE

People (Sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:24-26

People (sing): Glory to You, O Lord.

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the

other. You cannot serve both God and money. “Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?”

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People (sing): Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: LSB 785 We Praise You, O God

- 1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.
- 2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o’ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.
- 3 With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

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THE SERMON

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God; the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING and TREASURE CHEST

ZION CHOIR: “Take My Voice and Let Me Sing”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Responsive)

Pastor: Almighty God, you have named us and claimed as your children in Holy Baptism and set us on a path to make disciples of all nations.

People: We praise you, O God our Redeemer Creator.

Pastor: You call us to trust your mercy and to invest in the Gospel mission of our church and schools.

People: In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

Pastor: There is no escape from your judgment, O Spirit of Holiness, but neither can we flee beyond your limitless love.

People: We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you.

Pastor: We offer our financial gifts for caring use among the suffering; for gentle use among the hurting; for encouraging use among the dispirited; for powerful use in worldwide missions; and for worship, teaching and service within this church.

People: We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

+ Additional prayers +

Pastor: In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary.....evermore praising you and singing:

**People (sing): Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and**

lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

People (sing): Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: LSB 620

Jesus Comes Today with Healing (1-4)

- 1 Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
 Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
 "Come and taste the blessed feast."
- 2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
 In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
 Of His sacred covenant.

- 3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursèd tree.
- 4 God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.

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COMMUNION HYMN: LSB 555

Salvation Unto Us Has Come (1-3)

- 1 Salvation unto us has come
By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom,
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.
- 2 What God did in His Law demand
And none to Him could render
Caused wrath and woe on ev'ry hand
For man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not those pure desires
The spirit of the Law requires,
And lost is our condition.
- 3 It was a false, misleading dream
That God His Law had given
That sinners could themselves redeem
And by their works gain heaven.
The Law is but a mirror bright

To bring the inbred sin to light
That lurks within our nature.

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COMMUNION HYMN: LSB 632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

- 1 O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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DISMISSAL AND PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine—

People: According to his power that is at work within us.

Pastor: To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

ALL: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 924

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

- 2 Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.
- 3 Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

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SEND OFF

Leader: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out,
strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!