

TREASURES IN JARS OF CLAY

The God-Knowing Man



GOALS

1. Learn how to profit from our short, earthly existence
2. Discover treasures in the Earth which the God-knowing man can take with him even into eternity



1. OWNERSHIP



What does it mean to own something?



OWNERSHIP

Owning something implies a sense of full control over it. It also **means** being responsible for it and the consequences or damages it might cause.

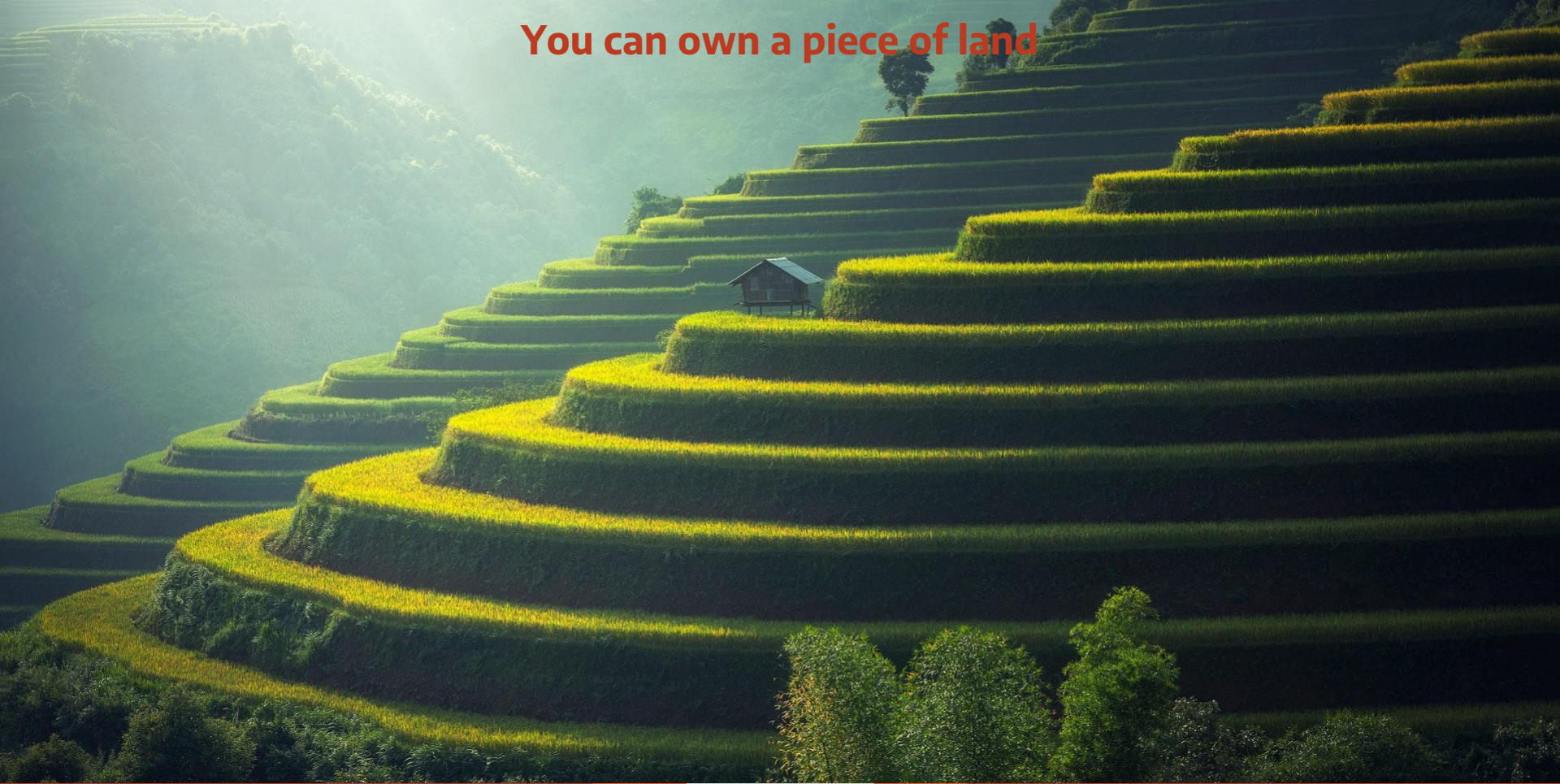


THINGS YOU CAN OWN

- House
- Money
- Land
- Jewelry

What other things can you own?

You can own a piece of land



2.

CHALLENGES WITH OWNERSHIP



What guarantees ownership?



CHALLENGES WITH OWNERSHIP

- Can you own something indefinitely, even unto eternity?
- Can you defend what you own against a stronger contender?



If your answer to these are YES,
then you **truly** own that thing.



3. ETERNAL TREASURES IN THE EARTH



What can you own indefinitely?



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*A Man's Life does not Consist in the
Abundance of His Possessions.*

TREASURES IN THE EARTH

- The treasures man acquires in the earth belong to him **briefly**, then he has to let go.
- But there are those which stay with him for all eternity:
 - The godly content of his character
 - The content of his mind having eternal value
 - His personality

4. CHARACTER



How does man acquire character?



CHARACTER



The mental and moral qualities
distinctive to an individual.

HOW MAN ACQUIRES CHARACTER

1. Choose your morals
2. Practice your morals
3. Repeat daily

What moral qualities do you know?

OPENNESS

Lack of secrecy or concealment; frankness. Being secretive and closed to others usually breeds corruption.

Being open / transparent enables a bad behavior or choices to be corrected.



RESOURCEFULNESS

Being able to achieve much, with little.



GRATITUDE

Being thankful, and showing it. It reminds us that we all drink from wells we did not dig.



INTEGRITY

Adhering to moral principle, being faithful to moral conscience, keeping our word, and standing up for what we believe.



HARD WORK

Applying a great deal of effort or endurance. Includes initiative, diligence, goal-setting, and resourcefulness. The Father works—mortal man must also work.



HUMILITY

Having a modest or low view of one's importance. Acknowledging that you are not always right.



PATIENCE

Capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.



PATIENCE

- The ministry of God's Spirit in man is a patient one — though He is perfect, He will have to wait a long time for man to catch up.
- Men must also extend this patience to their fellow men.

JUSTICE

Respecting the rights of all persons.
Includes self-respect, a proper regard for our own rights and dignity. Also called fairness.



SELF CONTROL

Ability to govern ourselves. Also called temperance. It enables us to control our temper, regulate our sensual appetites and passions, and pursue even legitimate pleasures in moderation.



FORTITUDE

Courage in pain or adversity. A man must face adversity in order to learn fortitude.



SOCIABLE

Willing to talk and engage in activities with other people; friendly. We live in a vast and friendly universe. Your ability to socialize will far outlast your earthly existence.



CHARITY

Voluntary giving of help, typically in the form of money, to those in need.

You do not give because you are charitable, you are charitable because you give.



MERCY

Compassion or forgiveness shown towards someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm.



MERCY THROUGH THE AGES

- Man has not always known the concept of Mercy
- Primitive man during battle, completely wiped out his opponent: women, children, whole tribes.



Taking prisoners of war is an
advancement brought about by
Mercy



Mercy usually tempers Justice



WISDOM

Having experience, knowledge, and good judgement; the quality of being wise.



WISDOM

- Tells us how to put the other virtues into practice—when to act, how to act, and how to balance different virtues when they conflict (as they do, for example, when telling the honest truth might hurt someone's feelings). Wisdom enables us to discern correctly, to see what is truly important in life, and to set priorities.

WISDOM DEMONSTRATED

- God wishes to build a spiritual kingdom. Wisdom dictates that He gives man a little responsibility in a lowly body and advance him upon the successful completion of his tasks.
- Wisdom dictates that you do not caste your pearls before swine lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

All these values and much more are embodied in Christ who is the standard for entry into Paradise. It is required that as we fellowship with Him we gradually put on every virtue in Him even as He reveals Himself to us, progressively.



5. SUMMARY



What have we learned?



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*For what shall it profit a man, if he
gain the whole world, and suffer the
loss of his soul?*

SUMMARY

- Man's true possessions outlive his earthly existence. They are within, not without, guaranteed by God himself.
- The gold, diamond and pearls in the earth are to aid your short stay in this sphere. The content of your character, mind and personality are for your eternal stay in Paradise.

SUMMARY

- A man's life does not consist in the things he possesses but the manner of man he is becoming, daily, even unto eternity.
- He must seek these things out as long as he has lives like he sifts through sand for diamonds or digs the earth for gold.

THANKS!

ANY QUESTIONS?



ASSIGNMENT

State the various avenues of life and ways that man can acquire the virtues listed above.

