

REDUCE, REDUCED, REDUCES, REDUCING, SHRINK

Under the Mosaic Law, the fee a person had to pay to get out of a vow was **reduced** if he was poor. (Specifically, the fee was reduced to what he could afford to pay.)

- **Leviticus 27:8:** "But if he be poorer than thy estimation, then he shall present himself before the priest, and the priest shall value him; according to his ability that vowed shall the priest value him."

Moses warned the Israelites that if they didn't do everything which was written in the Mosaic Law then their population would be **reduced** from a great multitude to only a few.

- **Deuteronomy 28:62:** "And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God."

The 70 kings that Adonibezek defeated ate their food under his table. It seems they were **reduced** to beggars, living off the scraps that fell from the king's table.

- **Judges 1:7:** "And Adonibezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died."

If a man becomes involved with an immoral women, he will be

reduced to poverty. (In some cases, his sin might kill him.)

- **Proverbs 6:26:** "For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life."

God wanted the Jewish population to grow when they were in captivity in Babylon, not **shrink**.

- **Jeremiah 29:6:** "Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished."

There are times when God punishes nations by **reducing** their food supply.

- **Ezekiel 16:27:** "Behold, therefore I have stretched out my hand over thee, and have diminished thine ordinary food, and delivered thee unto the will of them that hate thee, the daughters of the Philistines, which are ashamed of thy lewd way."

In the end, the wicked will be **reduced** to ash and trodden underfoot. However, those who fear the Lord will be blessed with healing and prosperity.

- **Malachi 4:3:** "And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts."

In the parable of the unrighteous steward, the steward helped

people by **reducing** the debt they owed to his master. It seems he reduced it to a level where they could afford to pay it.

- **Luke 16:6:** "And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty."

In the parable of the unrighteous steward, his master commended him for **reducing** the debts of the people who owed him goods. He saw that his servant hadn't canceled their debts entirely, but had instead reduced them to a level they could afford to pay. The master believed his servant had done wisely for everyone involved (because the master got paid, the debtors were able to pay off their debt, and the servant was owed favors by the people he helped).

- **Luke 16:8:** "And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light."

In the parable of the unrighteous steward, it was wise for the steward to use his position to **reduce** the debt of the people who owed goods to his master. That was the right thing to do.

- **Luke 16:8:** "And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light."

It's important for married couples to have sex. That **reduces** the devil's opportunity to tempt people to sin. (Sexual sin is extremely dangerous and damaging.)

- **1 Corinthians 7:5:** "Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves

to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency."

When the fourth angel sounded during the tribulation era, a third of the sun, moon, and stars was smitten. (This seems to mean the light coming from the sun, moon, and stars was **reduced** by a third.)

- **Revelation 8:12:** "And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise."

In the tribulation era, the city of Babylon would be destroyed in a single day and **reduced** to ruins.

- **Revelation 18:2, 8:** "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. ... Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her."

At the end of the tribulation period, God will judge Babylon. He will send plagues, death, and famine upon the city, and will **reduce** it to ruins where only demons and wild animals will live.

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