

A dark blue background with a large, horizontal, red brushstroke that serves as a background for the text. The brushstroke has a textured, painterly appearance with visible bristles and varying shades of red.

HOW TO INVEST YOUR ONE AND

ONLY LIFE

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO INVEST YOUR LIFE?

1. Scene 1: In the master's office.
 - The tense of the verb in the original language indicates that the manager was accused repeatedly of this kind of embezzlement.

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- The Greek word used here for him is *oikonomos*, which sounds very close to our word, *economist*.
- All the listeners expect to hear a *debate* or *argument* from the manager.

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- *Silence* is supremely significant in this setting.
- Disobedience brings *judgment*.

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2. Scene 2: On the way to get the books.

- The plan is based on everything he knows about the master.

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- So he thinks and thinks and comes up with a solution, not based on his reputation, but on his master's reputation.
- Trust in the master's mercy!

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3. Scene 3: *With the Books.*

- The plan has *everything* to do with the master and *nothing* to do with the manager.

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- a. The debtors must assume that the manager is still in authority.
 - b. The master has approved of this debt-reduction.
- The renter, having been wiped out by a flood or having a locust plague, would petition the landlord for a reduced fee.

4. Scene 4: In the master's office (again).

- Never before has a landlord reduced rents just because he's a generous person!

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- In that case, the master's name goes from marvelous to mud.
- But for the Eastern mind, saving face and reputation is everything.

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- Invest it in making friends for *eternity!*
- The better I invest what I have, the more will be *entrusted* to me.
- Can I invest my life in *two places?*

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO INVEST YOUR LIFE?

No servant can serve two masters, for 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 God and money!