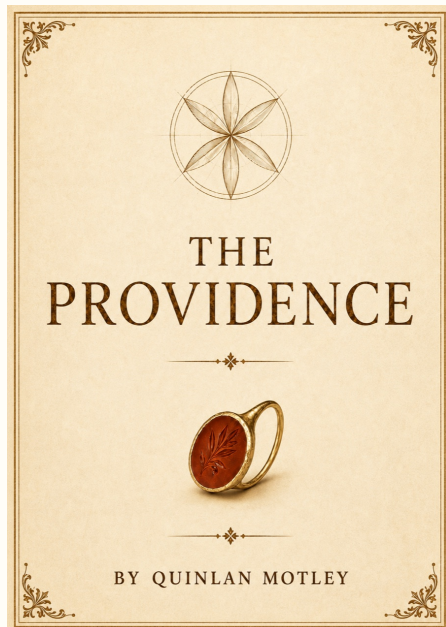


A life of provision. A question of surrender.

THE PROVIDENCE

A biblical historical fictional novel
by Quinlan Motley



Before he was known as the Rich Ruler, he was a hungry boy in Jericho who wanted more for the people he loved. Through work, risk and lessons learned from family, workers and merchants, he becomes a trusted provider and community decision maker. His success brings safer rooms, fair measures and food for households facing scarcity. It also gives his fear more to protect. When reports of Jesus reach him, he carries a question no account can settle: what must he do to inherit eternal life? **THE PROVIDENCE** imagines the life surrounding that encounter, asking whether generosity and the need to remain in control can grow together.

Inspired by the encounter recorded in Matthew 19, Mark 10 and Luke 18. The life imagined around the Rich Ruler is fiction.

FOR YOUR READING GROUP

Use the complete opening Book Sample and the ten discussion questions in this guide to consider the book for an upcoming selection. An optional 25 minute author conversation is subject to availability, language and written confirmation.

Choose your country, reading language and available format at GoodNovels.org. Explore English, Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, German, French, Japanese and Dutch editions. Kindle, paperback and hardcover choices vary by marketplace.

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Organizer next step: email goodnovels@mail.com with your group, reading language, approximate size, time zone and preferred meeting window.

Ten questions for the table

For discussion after reading. These questions include the ending.

- 01 Bread and belonging.** The boy gives his mother the larger piece of bread while remaining hungry. How does that act shape both the generosity and the fear of the man he becomes?
- 02 Integrity without a reward.** His father includes the overlooked grain in the estate's measure, yet the family loses its plot. How do father and son understand the value of honesty when it does not prevent loss?
- 03 The people inside the account.** On the dangerous road, saving the injured driver costs animals and goods. Why does the merchant ask him to learn from the loss without condemning the choice to save the man?
- 04 Who gets to choose safety?.** His wife asks to share a real, uncertain life, and his father asks to choose his own work. Where does the ruler's care begin to take choices away from those he loves?
- 05 Fairness and shared authority.** The common measure works better when other people can act. During the shortage, why must the ruler correct his public interruption of the steward in public? What would a private apology leave unresolved?
- 06 The person who has not spoken.** The ruler's first debt settlement assigns a son's working days without hearing him. What changes when the son speaks, and what does that scene reveal about the limits of an apparently fair calculation?
- 07 Love before the command.** Jesus loves the ruler before asking him to sell what he possesses and follow. How does being understood, rather than dismissed, make the decision more difficult? Why does the story distinguish his goods from property entrusted to him?
- 08 Giving more after the road.** After returning home, the ruler gives more and listens more carefully. What evidence suggests growth? What suggests that generosity may also help him postpone the particular response he was asked to make?
- 09 Evidence and delay.** His habit of testing reports protects him from rumor. When does another request for certainty become a reason to wait? How does the story of entrusted money reopen his understanding of what he has received?
- 10 The smaller piece.** On the final road, he releases the lead rope and turns home with bread still in his hand. What has he learned to give, and what remains unresolved? How does the ending change your understanding of the title?

Host note: invite readers to name a scene that supports their interpretation and distinguish the novel's imagined events from the Gospel account.

Meet Quinlan Motley



FAITH, SERVICE AND FICTION

Quinlan Motley is a Sunday School Teacher, Food Bank Volunteer and GoodNovels.org Author whose writing reflects a life shaped by faith, service and responsibility. A Husband, Father and Entrepreneur, he writes about the choices that reveal what we value and the courage it takes to trust beyond what we can control.

His Novel **THE PROVIDENCE** explores generosity, ambition, responsibility and the difficult question of what it means to have enough.

THREE CONVERSATION ANGLES

When providing becomes controlling

A conversation about the difference between helping people and deciding their lives for them, through the ruler's wife, father and steward.

A generous man facing a difficult invitation

Why a protagonist who pays fair wages and feeds hungry households makes the Rich Ruler's encounter more searching, and why generosity does not settle every question of trust.

Writing around the silence of Scripture

How fiction can imagine an unnamed life while keeping the Gospel encounter and the author's invented biography clearly distinct.

INVITE THE AUTHOR

For a Book Club, library, podcast or reader conversation, send your proposed topic, audience, preferred dates, time zone, session length and access needs. A 25 minute Book Club conversation is an available request format. Dates and participation are confirmed individually.

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