

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

#6 The parable of the talents

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MATT. 25:14-30

14"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more.



MATT. 25:14-30

17So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.



MATT. 25:14-30

20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'



MATT. 25:14-30

22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.'
23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'



MATT. 25:14-30

24He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' 26But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed?



MATT. 25:14-30

You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.



MATT. 25:14-30

29For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'



THE BIG IDEA

- It is all about being faithful until Jesus' second coming



MATT. 25:14-15

GIVEN TALENTS

- A talent in OT = 34kg
- In NT = 20 years wages of laborer
- English word 'talent' comes from this parable and means 'being gifted'
- The talents are GIVEN (so no one can boast)
- Do you know yours?
- Given according to ability (capability)



MATT. 25:14-15

GIVEN TALENTS

- 5, 2 and 1 talent: is this unfair?
- 1 talent equals \$600,000
- Some are given more, some less but all are given much!



MATT. 25:16-18

INVEST! START TRADING!

- The first two start trading, investing and making more
- The third one put it in the ground...



MATT. 25:19-23

ACCOUNTABILITY

- After a long time (Matt. 24:48, 25:5)
- 'Well done, good and faithful servant'
- It's not about the *portion* but about the *proportion*: about being faithful
- 'faithful over little, I will set you over more'



MATT. 25:24-27

FEAR PARALYZES

- You wicked and slothful (lazy) servant
- He considered his master unjust, hard and unreasonable
- Because he was given less? Only a proud/selfish heart would go here...
- The church is not a 'talent show'
- He had a wrong idea about God
- The real reason for laziness is often fear



MATT. 25:28-30

OUTER DARKNESS

- To the one who does not know God, everything will be taken away
- To the one who knows God, more will be given
- This is sobering & liberating!

