



**A MAN AND HIS STORIES #2
PARABLES OF THE TALENTS**

Matt. 25:14-30 Mark 13:34 Luke 19:11-27
Call Study – Jason Park

Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. ¹⁵He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip. ¹⁶“The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. ¹⁷The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. ¹⁸But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master’s money.....

²⁴“Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, ‘Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate. ²⁵I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back. ²⁶“But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate, ²⁷why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it. ²⁸“Then he ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. ²⁹To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. ³⁰Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. **Matthew 25:14-17, 24-30**

THE MAN = JESUS

THE SERVANTS = FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

HIS POSSESSIONS/WEALTH/MONEY = GIFT OF SALVATION

THE GIFT IS VALUABLE

IT COMES WITH EXPECTATIONS

THERE WILL BE REWARDS or CONSEQUENCE

WE HAVE BEEN TRUSTED WITH A GIFT

Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his **wealth** to them. **Matt. 25:14**

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to **serve others**, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. **1 Peter 4:10**

HIS GIFTS ARE VALUABLE

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people. **Ephesians 1:18**

²⁹To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. **Matthew 25:29**

WE ARE CALLED TO GROW

So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds and placing our faith in God. **Hebrews 6:1**

⁷When the ground soaks up the falling rain and bears a good crop for the farmer, it has God's blessing. ⁸But if a field bears thorns and thistles, it is useless. The farmer will soon condemn that field and burn it. **Hebrews 6:7-8**

WE WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE

³⁴The coming of the Son of Man can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. When he left home, he gave each of his slaves instructions about the work they were to do, and he told the gatekeeper to watch for his return. ³⁵You, too, must keep watch! For you don't know when the master of the household will return—in the evening, at midnight, before dawn, or at daybreak. ³⁶Don't let him find you sleeping when he arrives without warning. ³⁷I say to you what I say to everyone: Watch for him! **Mark 13:34-37**

So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, our goal is to please him. For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body. **2 Corinthians 5:9-10 NLT**

GOD HAS HIS OWN STANDARD FOR EACH OF US

To one he gave five talents, another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability. **Matt. 25:15**

Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have. **2 Corinthians 8:12**

GOD'S HAS GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR US AS MEN

HUSBANDS (Eph. 5:25)

CHILDREN (Ps. 22:6)

His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things.

Matthew 25:21 NIV

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What are your thoughts on this parable?

What are you doing when you feel like God is using you and your gifts?

How do we make sure he does not find you “sleeping?” (Mark 13:36)

Where do you need to grow?

Is there something holding you back?

Does anyone have a prayer request?