

**Reflection Questions:** What *talents* has God given me? How am I using them for His kingdom? What could I do more? What risks do I currently take for Jesus? How have I been faithful to Him? What have I done to show my faithfulness? How do I know I'm ready for the Lord's return?

How can we pray for one another this week?

### Quotes to Ponder

*We are not justified by works. But if we do not have works, we are not justified. We are not Christians.*

James Montgomery Boice

*Men will be judged not merely for doing wrong,  
but for neglecting to do right*

Albert Barnes

*I'm not afraid of failing. I'm afraid of succeeding at things  
that do not matter.*

William Carey

*Let us leave this parable with a solemn determination by God's grace, never to be content with the profession of Christianity without practice. Let us not only talk about religion, but act. Let us not only feel the importance of saving faith in Christ but do something too.*

J.C. Ryle

*To have done no harm is praise for a stone, not for a man.*

Matthew Dowling

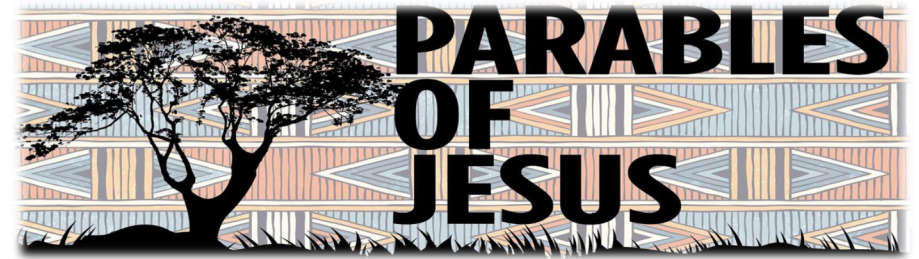
*This parable teaches us to begin all our Christian service with the knowledge that we are serving Him who has given all for us and that we can never repay Him or do enough to show our gratitude.*

R.C. McQuilkin

*God has a work for every man, and God gives to every man enough capital to accomplish the work that He intends for him to do.... God doesn't simply order and demand. He loves and pities and extends His arms in mercy.*

*When He gives us a task, He gives us the means to accomplish the task; and He never requires of us something that we have not first been given.*

Neil R. Lightfoot



Parable of the Talents  
Matthew 25:14-30

*Sermon*  
Notes

August 30, 2020

1. The Master
  
2. The Slaves
  
3. The Reckoning
  - A. First Slave
  
  - B. Second Slave
  
  - C. Third Slave
  
4. The Meaning

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you? Convinced you? Challenged you? Confused you? Comforted you?

2. Read *Matthew 25:14-30*. What does *it* refer to? Explain.

Who does the master represent?

Who do the three slaves represent?

3. Why were the slaves given different amounts (*Matthew 25:15*)?

4. What does the master do when he returns (*Matthew 25:19*)? What does this illustrate?

5. How did the master respond to the first two slaves (*Matthew 25:20-23*)? Why?

What did these slaves receive from Him?

6. What did the third slave say about his master (*Matthew 25:24-25*)? Did he truly know his master? Explain.

7. How did the master respond to the third slave (*Matthew 25:26-30*)? Why?

What is his ultimate fate?

8. What point is this parable making?

9. What warning is Jesus communicating in this parable?

10. How does this settling of accounts portrayed in this story parallel what will happen when we die and/or when Jesus returns?

11. How does the thought of giving an account to Jesus affect the seriousness of how you live your life right now?

12. Do we usually prioritize faithfulness or success? Why?

13. Why is it important to know that God will reward us according to our faithful labor, not according to the results we produce?

14. Why is comparing ourselves with others counterproductive?

15. What kinds of things has Jesus entrusted to us that He expects us to use for Him and His purposes while we wait for His return?

16. What are the differences between the Parable of the Talents (*Matthew 25:14-30*) and the Parable of the Ten Minas (*Luke 19:11-27*)?