Parable of the Talents

Ed Giles · Matthew 25:14–30

INTRODUCTION

- But the message was clear. Produce or go somewhere else.
- That kind of started my pondering process that I have about the parable of the talents in Matthew chapter 25.

1 The Talents, the Slaves, and the Master

Matthew 25:14–15

- And how we see each of these things really affects how we see this parable.
- At the very top, the highest denomination of monetary units, you've got the talent.
- This is a tremendous amount of wealth for that time. Jesus is shocking them with the value of this.

2 They Were Stewards of Those Talents

Matthew 25:14

- He called his servants and entrusted to them his property. They did not own the talents. They were stewards of those talents.
- Be careful when you start thinking about what is mine and what I will do with it as a servant of Christ.
- Everything we have, everything, is from God. And we need to think about using those things for his purposes.

3 He Went at Once

Matthew 25:16–23

- He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them and made five more talents.
- This man was busy. This was his focus. It was for his master.
- The two talent guy went hard at it with what he was responsible for. Doubled it.
- And then he left it. Knowing the master was coming back.

4 How Do You See Our God?

Matthew 25:24–25; 2 Timothy 1:6–7

- How do you see our God? Remember how we view these three things will impact how we learn from this parable.
- The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. But that's not really a place we want to stay. Fear can be paralyzing.

- For God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control.
- There is no fear in love, but perfect love cast out fear.
- They were busy because they saw him in the right way.

5 Wicked and Slothful Servant

Matthew 25:26–30; 2 Corinthians 5:10

- If you have to make an excuse when you meet God, do not use I was afraid.
- Ask for some help. Everybody doesn't know everything. To do that, you need to throw away your pride.
- This servant is defined as being wicked, lazy, and worthless.
- We're gonna get there by grace. But God has expectations of how we behave with what he gives us according to our ability.
- Not how hard we believed, but how we produced, how we performed with the blessings and the treasures that he left with us.

6 The Talent Is the Saving Gospel of Jesus Christ

Matthew 16; Matthew 28:18–20

- Go therefore and make disciples of all, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.
- We sit here this morning because of that faithfulness. But we can't let it end with us.
- I see the talent that I have been entrusted with as the saving gospel of Jesus Christ and all that entails.
- It takes being busy and prioritizing, putting the things of God first in life and working for that increase.

THE CHALLENGE

There is treasure there that no one, no one can take away from you. Or you, a Christian who perhaps is struggling, maybe you buried your talent, you need to get back on track.

MY NOTES