

The Parable of the Talents: The Believer's Duty to Work

Mathew 25: 14–30

1. *The Lord went on a journey*

2. *The Lord entrusted His property to His servants*

- a. Called His servants
- b. Gave each servant a different portion
- c. Gave each servant according to his ability

3. *The servants treated the Lord's goods differently*

- a. Two were responsible:
Immediately worked
 - 1) Were faithful and diligent
 - 2) Were successful
- b. One was irresponsible:
Did not try

4. *The day of settling accounts came much later*

- a. The Lord returned
- b. The Lord judged them

5. *The reward for work well done: More work to do*

- a. The first servant
 - 1) Acknowledged God's gifts and grace
 - 2) Laboured 100 percent for the Lord
 - 3) Was commended and given a great reward:
Rulership and joy

14 "Again,
it will be like a man going on a journey,
who called his servants
and entrusted his property to them.

15 To one he gave five talents of money,
to another two talents,
and to another one talent,
each according to his ability.
Then he went on his journey.

16 The man who had received the five talents
went at once and put his money to work
and gained five more.

17 So also,
the one with the two talents
gained two more.

18 But the man who had received the one talent
went off, dug a hole in the ground
and hid his master's money.

19 "After a long time
the master of those servants returned
and settled accounts with them.

20 The man who had received the five talents
brought the other five.
'Master,' he said,
'you entrusted me with five talents.
See, I have gained five more.'

21 His master replied,
'Well done, good and faithful servant!
You have been faithful with a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things.
Come and share your master's happiness!'

<p>b. The second servant</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Acknowledged God's gifts and grace 2) Laboured 100 percent for the Lord 3) Was commended and given a great reward: Rulership and joy <p>6. The punishment for work not done: Stripping and separation</p> <p>a. The servant's reasons for not working</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) He misunderstood God: Thought God was too demanding 2) He feared loss while on earth <p>b. God's reasons for condemning the servant</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) He was wicked and lazy 2) He was inconsistent 3) He failed to use his gift <p>c. The judgment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) He was stripped of what he had 2) He was thrown into outer darkness 	<p>22 The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'</p> <p>23 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'</p> <p>24 Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.</p> <p>25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'</p> <p>26 His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?</p> <p>27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'</p> <p>28 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents.</p> <p>29 For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.</p> <p>30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"</p>
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