



The Gospel of Matthew

"The Parable of the Talents"

Matthew 25:14-30



Coming of the Son of Man

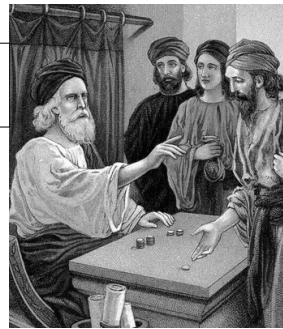
1. His coming is "near"
2. The timing is unknown and unpredictable



Matthew 24:36 – 25:46

Overview

- the unexpected and unpredictable coming of the Son of Man calls for a constant readiness lest you be caught unprepared
(Matthew 24:42,44; 25:13)



Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30



Parable of the Talents

Observations

- these slaves were "investment managers" of the master's resources (not owners)
- a "talent" was a large sum of money (equivalent to 6,000 denarii – 20 years of income!)
- the slaves were entrusted with differing amounts based on their own abilities



Parable of the Talents

"Talents"

- represent the specific opportunities and responsibilities of the kingdom of heaven entrusted to us by God on the basis of our abilities



Parable of the Talents

Principles

1. Every disciple has God-given opportunities and gifts to be of service to their Lord

➤ *all of life is a stewardship from God*



Parable of the Talents

Principles

2. Readiness is faithfully serving Jesus with what He has entrusted to us

➤ *stewardship is a defining mark of discipleship*



Parable of the Talents

Principles

2. Readiness is faithfully serving Jesus with what He has entrusted to us

- commendation is not based on our ability but on faithfulness to what we have been given
- do not envy those with seemingly greater abilities and greater responsibilities



Parable of the Talents

Principles

3. The reward of faithfulness is joy, abundance and greater responsibility

➤ *our service is not begrudging submission but ultimate joy*



Parable of the Talents

Principles

4. In the end some who have an appearance of readiness will be shown not to be ready

➤ *a lack of stewardship is evidence of a false discipleship*