**The Parables of Jesus Pt. 6**

**Ivy Baptist Church Bible Study**

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**Review:**

* **Parable: A simple story (usually real or involving real life situations) to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson**
* **Jesus used parables for most of His teaching on spiritual matters**
* **Matthew 13:34: “Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; He did not say anything to them without using a parable”**
* **Psalm 78:2: I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from old**

**Matthew 25:14-30: The Parable of the Talents**

**Context:**

* **This parable came right after the parable of the 10 virgins and before the parable of the sheep and goats.**
* **The parable is in answer to the questions in Matthew 24:3:**
* **When will you return?**
* **What will the signs of your coming and the end of the age?**
* **Jesus spends TWO chapters answering these questions (eschatology: doctrine of the end times)**

**Text:**

* **A man is going on a journey and calls his servants before he leaves.**
* **One servant gets 5 talents**
* **One servant gets 2 talents**
* **One servant gets 1 talent**
* **(NOTE: Each given the amount ACCORDING TO THEIR ABILITY) (vs. 15)**

**“Characters” in the parable:**

* **Master: God**
* **Servants: Us**
* **Talents: Anything that God has given us, especially for spiritual benefit and advancing the kingdom of God**

**Text:**

* **After giving them each an amount the man leaves**
* **After a long time the man returns to settle the accounts with his servants (vs. 19)**
* **Servant who received 5 talents, earned 5 more.**
* **Master’s response: WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT, You were faithful over a few things, I will put you in charge of many things….**
* **Servant who received 2 talents, earned 2 more.**
* **Master’s response: WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT, You were faithful over a few things, I will put you in charge of many things….**
* **Servant who received one talent, didn’t earn any more. Instead “buried” his to keep it “safe”**
* **Master’s response: You wicked and lazy servant! (vs. 26)**
* **Take the one that belongs to him and give it to the one who has 10! (vs. 28)**

**New order:**

* **Servant who received 5 now has 11**
* **Servant who received 2 now has 4**
* **Servant who received 1 now has NONE and was cast into HELL**

**Lessons from this parable:**

* **1. There WILL be a day of judgment for all of us**
* **It may or may not happen in our PHYSICAL lifetime, but that day WILL come**
* **Jesus spends TWO chapters discussing His return and what will happen He comes back!**
* **The GREATEST “division” between us is where we will spend eternity!**
* **2. Salvation comes by FAITH, HOWEVER, works PROVE the kind of faith you TRULY have!**
* **Jesus is NOT suggesting that works alone get you in.**
* **Jesus IS saying that REAL FAITH is ACTIVE. It’s NOT just a simple “belief” in Him**
* **Judgment came to the one who didn’t “act on” what the master gave him**
* **3. God gives all of us what we can HANDLE!**
* **The master determined who received how many talents**
* **Same talent…..different amount**
* **This speaks to God creating you to WIN by giving you what you can HANDLE**
* **This ALSO speaks to God not taking ANY excuses for why you CAN’T do it**

**Conclusion:**

* **Faith without works is DEAD!**
* **Love, Grow, Serve should be DEMONSTRATED not memorized!**
* **Instead of looking for more from God, we should FIRST develop what He’s already given us!**