

Great Expectations

Matthew 25: 14 – 20

5 June 2022 A.M.

Series: Commitment to the Church

Matthew 25: 14 - 18

¹⁴ “For *it is* just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. ¹⁵ “To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. ¹⁶ “Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. ¹⁷ “In the same manner the one who *had* received the two *talents* gained two more. ¹⁸ “But he who received the one *talent* went away, and dug *a hole* in the ground and hid his master’s money.

Matthew 25: 19 - 23

¹⁹ “Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ “The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’ ²¹ “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²² “Also the one who *had* received the two talents came up and said, ‘Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.’ ²³ “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

Matthew 25: 24 - 27

²⁴ “And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no *seed*. ²⁵ ‘And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’ ²⁶ “But his master answered and said to him, ‘You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no *seed*. ²⁷ ‘Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest.

Matthew 25: 28 - 30

²⁸ ‘Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.’

²⁹ “For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. ³⁰ “Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The Identity of The Actors

- The man about to go on a journey.
 - Jesus who has ascended into heaven.
- His own slaves entrusted with His possessions.
 - Christians or the church, both wheat and tares.
- The trust with talents.
 - The work He started is to continue in them.
 - Only given based on ability of the slave.

The Act of the Actors

- Both the five talent and two talent produce 100%.
 - The talent given equaled the ability of each one.
- The one talent man did nothing with it.
 - He didn't squander or use it selfishly.
 - Did he think he had little to offer?
 - Did he give up on the return of the master?
- The point is that what one does with the talents God has given proves salvation.

What is that Great Expectation?

- Jesus as the Master has great expectations presented in this parable.
 - The great expectation is that Jesus is coming back
 - His return is imminent!
 - The great expectation is that Jesus' followers will use the talent(s) He has given us to continue the work He started.
- The fact is certain that Jesus is coming and He has a great expectation concerning you!

Conclusion

- Jesus, our Master, has given each of us talent(s) to use in our service for him.
- Jesus gave us our talent based on our ability, therefore, we know we can use it.
- To fail to use our talent is to fail to prove we are even Christian in the first place.
- Jesus is coming soon, and we will all be called to account for the talent He has given us.