

The Parable of the Talents



**Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 19:12-
26**

- **Review Lessons Taught:**
- In Matthew 13:10, Jesus began using parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven. His disciples noticed the change in His method of teaching, and asked Him the question, “Why do You speak to them in parables?”
- According to Mark 4:34, “Jesus did not say anything to them without using a parable and when He was alone with His disciples He would explain what He meant.”
- Purpose: to assist us in growing in our understanding by exploring these divine truths found in Christ’s teaching. To teach us what they mean and how they relate to our present and future life in Christ Jesus.
- Goal: to allow the Holy Spirit speak to our hearts and draw us closer to Jesus Christ.

1. What is a parable?

- It is a simple yet powerful story that Jesus used to illustrate a great truth. Jesus used parables to help His followers understand spiritual truths.
- The word “parable” is taken from the Greek word that literally means to cast or throw alongside.
- Parables were stories that were “cast or thrown” alongside a truth in order to illustrate a divine truth.

2. These are the parables that have been taught:

- The Parable of the Sower. (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23)
- The Parable of the Wheat and The Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30)
- The Parable of the Mustard Seed. (Matthew 13:31-32)
- The Parable of the Leaven (Matthew 13:33, Luke 13:20-21)
- The Parable of the Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:44)
- The Parable of the Pearl of Great Price” (Matthew 13:45-46)
- The Parable of the Dragnet
- The Parable of the Wineskins

3. We learned that there are at least 39 Parables that is recorded in between the Gospel of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. There are no parables found in the Gospel of John.

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- This parable is so powerful because it reminds us of what Jesus Christ has done for us, given us, expects from us and will return for us.
 - This parable teaches us that stewardship is not just an earthly matter, but an eternal Kingdom matter as well.
 - In this parable Jesus shares with His disciples that the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them... (vs. 14-30)
- There are Five important factors that Jesus mentions in this parable. (vs. 14-30)
 1. The man.
 2. The journey.
 3. The servants.
 4. The goods.
 5. The return.
 - There are Four areas we will examine in this parable. (vs. 20-30)
 1. The calling.
 2. The concern.
 3. The commendation.
 4. The condemnation.
 - Who is the “man” referred to in this parable? (vs. 14)
 1. The “man” is the Son of Man – “Jesus Christ.”
 2. The “man” traveling to a far country – “Jesus Christ ascension into heaven.”
 3. The “man” returns from his journey away – “Jesus Christ will return.”

- The Word of God is the infallible truth that Jesus Christ has risen and ascended into heaven. He now sits at the right hand of the throne of God. (Luke 24:1-26, 27-49, Acts 1:1-11, Romans 8:34, Colossians 3:1, Hebrews 1:3-4, 12:1-2, 1 Peter 3:22)
 - The Word of God is also the infallible truth that Jesus Christ will return once His work down here on earth is completed by His servants. (Matthew 24:37-47, John 14:1-6, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 19:11-16)
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- Notice the action of the “man” before traveling on his journey. (vs. 14)
 1. The “man” called his own servants.
 2. The “man” delivered his goods to them.
 3. Both the servants and the goods belonged to the man.

 - Jesus reveals in this parable a Kingdom Principle called Stewardship. (Genesis 1:26-28)
 1. The word “stewardship” means the right to care for the property of another or someone else.
 2. Another word for “dominion” is stewardship, manager or administrator over.
 3. God is the Owner, “I’m just the manager.”
 4. God gave mankind dominion or stewardship over everything that He created. (Genesis 1:26-28, Psalm 8:4-9)

 - God gave us stewardship for two reasons. (Psalm 24:1-2, 100:1-5, Deuteronomy 8:18)
 1. To honor Him.
 2. To teach us responsibility.