

SERVANTHOOD – 3
FEBRUARY 17, 2019

MATTHEW 25:14-30

A woman known for being a hothead told the protestant reformer John Wesley that her talent was to speak her mind. Mr. Wesley's reply was "woman, God wouldn't care a bit if you would bury that talent."

LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE

1. God takes servanthood seriously.
 - A. Those who were faithful entered the joy of the Lord.
 - B. He who was unprofitable, was cast into outer darkness.
2. We all have at least one talent.
 - A. In money, a talent is about 1.4 million dollars.
 - B. In natural gifts, it's a skill, ability, our influence or intelligence.
 - C. Spiritually, it's God given gifts and graces.
3. Judgment is based on faithfulness.
 - A. It's not the amount that matters, it's what we do with what we've been given.
 - B. **LUKE 16:10-13** – If we can be trusted with small things, He can trust us with greater things.
4. We're all accountable for what we do with what we have.
 - A. **MATTHEW 25:19 (NLT)** – Everything we do should be done with a view of the day of reckoning.
 - B. **2 CORINTHIANS 5:9-10** – The Bema Seat of Christ. **ROMANS 14:12** – We all will give an account of ourselves: Conduct, character, words, actions, plans, purposes, pursuits, and our use of what God has given us.
5. Our perception of God is important. **MATTHEW 25:24-25 (NIV)**
 - A. His perception was wrong, but this was his excuse.
 - B. The truth is found in **(V26-27 NIV)**. His heart was wicked and his flesh was lazy. He was more concerned about himself.
6. Our lives touch two time periods.
 - A. Present day responsibility. **JOHN 15:1-2**
 - B. Future day accountability, when all will be judged not just for doing wrong, but neglecting to do right.
7. Don't compare ourselves with others.
 - A. Talents are given according to one's ability. Just as we're not equally gifted athletically, musically or intellectually, we're not equally gifted spiritually.
ROMANS 12:5-6
8. If we don't use what we have, we can lose it.
 - A. Saul lost his anointing to David. Each servant determined his own outcome by what he did with his talent.

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

1. Am I living my life with eternity in mind?
2. Am I using my God given abilities for Kingdom use?
3. Am I willing to take risks to advance the Kingdom?
4. Am I taking advantage of the opportunities I have?
5. Am I being faithful in small things?