

MATTHEW 25:14-46

PARABLE OF THE TEN TALENTS

THE SON OF MAN RETURNING

PRAY FOR PASTOR KENNY

- Kenny is in the U.S. for a worship leaders conference.
- Pray he makes many contacts.

MATTHEW 25:14-46

PARABLE OF THE TEN TALENTS

THE SON OF MAN RETURNING

MATTHEW 25 - BACKGROUND

- Verses 1-13 Parable of the ten virgins
 - Message of “Be ready!”
 - 25:13 “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.”

MATTHEW 25 - BACKGROUND

- Verses 14-30 Parable of the ten talents
 - Message of “What it means to be ready.”
- Verses 31-46 Story of the sheep and the goats
 - Message of our actions and Jesus’ Second Coming

END TIMES SUMMARY (PART #1)

- Jesus on earth. Jesus dies for our sins, resurrects, and goes up into Heaven.
- Waiting. Israel regathers as a nation. How much more waiting?
- Church is raptured.

END TIMES SUMMARY (PART #2)

- Anti-Christ comes. Jerusalem Temple rebuilt.
 - Mark of the Beast 666 given to people, Christians & Jews persecuted.
 - Anti-Christ demands to be worshiped as God.
- God gets annoyed & sends judgements (Great Tribulation)
- Jesus comes again (Second Coming)
- Satan locked up. Jesus rules on earth for 1,000 years (Millennial Kingdom).

END TIMES SUMMARY (PART #3)

- Satan released (for a time). Humans rebel against Jesus.
- Satan locked up forever (Rev 20:10)
- Great White Throne of Judgment (Rev 20:11).
 - Final judgement of everyone.
- Heaven and earth are destroyed (Rev. 21)
- God makes a new heaven and earth (Rev 21-22)

MATTHEW 25:14-46

PARABLE OF THE TEN TALENTS

THE SON OF MAN RETURNING



THE THREE SERVANTS

- **Matthew 25:14** "*For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.*
- **Matthew 25:15** And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.
 - The Master knew how much ability each servant had.

WHAT IS A TALENT?

- A measurement of weight.
- **How much?**
 - Talent = 6,000 shekels (measurement as weight)
 - Wikipedia says the talent in N.T. times weighted **58.9 kg**.

WHAT IS A TALENT

- If the talent was made of copper, silver, or gold – **we are not told**
- The amount of money left the servants to take care of was **BIG MONEY.**

WHAT THE MASTER LEFT

- Mat 25:16 Then he who had received the five talents **went and traded** with them, and made another five talents.
 - **went and traded = *action!***
- Mat 25:17 And likewise he who had received two gained two more also..

THE FIRST TWO SERVANTS

- Used what they had.
- Gained more.
- Did it with perseverance.
- Were successful.
 - Servant given 5 earned 5 more
 - Servant given 2 earned 2 more
- Were ready when the master returned.

YOUR “TALENTS” WHAT DID GOD GIVE YOU TO WORK WITH?

- Time
- Money
- Abilities
- Authority
- House
- Something else

BEING READY FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS

- Doing well with what you were given.
- How we use what God gave us for His purpose.

THE MASTER RETURNS

- Mat 25:19 After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
- How long was the master gone?
- Has Jesus been gone a long time?

THE MASTER REWARDS SERVANTS 1 & 2

- Matthew 25:21 & 23
- His lord said to him, 'Well done, **good** and **faithful** servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'
- From verses 21 and 23, what is the master interested in?

WHAT DID THE MASTER NOT SAY?

- “Well done servant do making me all that money!”
- “Well done, good and intelligent servant.”
- “Well done, good and famous servant.”

WHAT “ENTER INTO THE JOY OF YOUR LORD.”?

- Has a hint of Heaven.
- **Zephaniah 3:17** The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

THE THIRD SERVANT

- Mat 25:24 "Then he who had **received the one talent came** and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed.'
- Mat 25:25 And I was **afraid**, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

HOW THE MASTER LOOKED AT THINGS

- As a group, the results were very good:
 - 8 talents were given.
 - 15 were returned.
- The servants were judged in their **individual** faithfulness & effort.

THE THIRD SERVANT – GIVES AN EXCUSE

- The servant who buried the talent gave an excuse.
- **He described his master as being super powerful.**
 - Harvesting where he did not plant seeds.
 - “Master, you are so powerful, you don’t need my help.”
 - “You can do it much better.
- God measures things by how HE measures things, **NOT HOW YOU MEASURE THINGS.**

THE THIRD SERVANT – GIVES AN EXCUSE

- I can do very little.
- It will not make much difference if I do nothing.
- I will not be missed.
- No one will notice if I help.
- I won't even bother.

THE THIRD SERVANT – GIVES AN EXCUSE

- Mat 25:25 And I was **afraid**, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, **there you have what is yours.**
- **His actions don't look that bad.**
 - Talent was kept safe (not lost).
 - He didn't spend it on himself.
- But he didn't use the talent to benefit his master.

THE THIRD SERVANT – GIVES AN EXCUSE

- There was no urgency to get results.
- No improvement was made from the one talent (the master expected a return).
- **Pro 29:25** The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

THE MASTER'S RESPONSE

- The 3rd servant had no idea how much he displeased his master.
- **Mat 25:26** "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.'
 - The master admitted he was very strong.
 - But the servant was not forgiven.

THE MASTER'S RESPONSE

- **Mat 25:27** So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.
 - “You could have at least done this *one* simple thing...”

THE PARABLE IS ABOUT US

- What are we doing with the things God gave us?
 - Time
 - Money
 - Abilities
 - Authority
 - House
 - Something else

IF WE DON'T ACT...JUDGEMENT

- Not helping others.
- Not praying.
- Not evangelizing.
- Brings judgement on ourselves.

IT ALL BELONGS TO GOD

- Many Christians do not know -- it all came from God.
- If God gave it to me, it belongs to me, right? No.
- The Third Servant
 - The servant didn't eat the money.
 - He didn't spend it himself – like a big party.
 - But he did not use it to benefit his Master.

THE MASTER'S RESPONSE

- **Mat 25:28** So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.
- **Mat 25:29** 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

JUDGEMENT FOR THE THIRD SERVANT

- **Mat 25:30** And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
- What was judgement for the five foolish virgins?
 - **Mat 25:10** "the door was shut."
 - **Mat 25:12** 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

PARABLE OF THE TALENTS - SUMMARY

- God gave you things.
 - Time, money, abilities, etc.
- Use them for God.
- Teach others, Evangelize
- This is what God expects of you.

WHAT NOW?

- If you knew that Jesus was returning in a month, what should you do?

JESUS IS COMING BACK

- **Acts 1:11** who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same Jesus*, who was taken up from you into heaven, **will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.**"
- **1Cor 1:7** So that you come short in no gift, **eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **Colo 3:4** **When Christ** *who is our life* **appears**, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

THE SHEEP & THE GOATS (25:31-46)

- **JESUS CONTINUES....**
- **Mat 25:31** "When the **Son of Man comes in His glory**, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.
 - This is about Jesus' Second Coming
- Pay attention: there are three groups of people in this story.

THE SHEEP & THE GOATS

- **Mat 25:32** All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats.
- **Mat 25:33** And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.
 - Right is better

RIGHT IS BETTER THAN LEFT

- **Gen 48:14** Then Israel stretched out his **right hand** and laid *it* on **Ephraim's head**, who *was* the younger, and his **left hand on Manasseh's head**, guiding his hands knowingly, for Manasseh *was* the firstborn.
- **Gen 48:17** Now when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him; so he took hold of his father's hand to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.

BUT WHEN IS THIS JUDGEMENT?

1. Great White Throne of Judgement? Revelation 20:11-20
2. Another judgement?

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE OF JUDGEMENT

- **Rev 20:11** Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.
- **Rev 20:12** And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE OF JUDGEMENT

- **Rev 20:13b** And they were judged, each one according to his works.
- **Rev 20:15** And anyone not found written in the **Book of Life** was cast into the lake of fire.

BACK TO JESUS' STORY

- There is no mention of a “book”
- Only a mention of “all the nations” (likely all the people) & “He will separate”
 - Mat 25:32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats.
- Maybe it is NOT the Great White Throne of Judgement.
 - What? Another judgement? Maybe yes.

KING SPEAKS TO THE SHEEP

- **Mat 25:34** Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
- **Mat 25:35** for **I was hungry** and you gave Me food; **I was thirsty** and you gave Me drink; **I was a stranger** and you took Me in;

KING SPEAKS TO THE SHEEP

- **Mat 25:36** *I was naked* and you clothed Me; *I was sick* and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.
 - Ministries: Benevolence, hospitality, hospital, prison.

THE RIGHTEOUS (SHEEP) QUESTION

- **Mat 25:37** "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink?'"
- **Mat 25:38** "When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*?"
- **Mat 25:39** "Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to *You*?"

THE KING ANSWERS

- **Mat 25:40** And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these **My brethren [brothers]**, you did *it* to Me.'
 - “My brethren [brothers]” = Group #3

THE KING ANSWERS

- Who are “My brethren”?
 - Christians?
 - Jews?
 - Both?

WHO ARE “MY BRETHREN”?

- Probably both Christians and Jews both.
- It's about helping Christians and Jews during Tribulation Period.

BUYING & SELLING DURING TRIBULATION

- **Rev 13:16** He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a **mark on their right hand or on their foreheads**,
- **Rev 13:17** **and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark** or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.
- **Rev 13:18** Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: **His number is 666.**

BACK TO THE SHEEP AND GOATS

- **Mat 25:41** "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, '**Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:**
- **Mat 25:42** for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink;
- **Mat 25:43** I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

THE GOATS ASK A QUESTION

- **Mat 25:44** "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'"
- **Mat 25:45** Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, **you did not do it to Me.**'
- **Mat 25:46** **And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."**

EXACTLY WHO ARE THE SHEEP? AND WHO ARE THE GOATS?

- Scripture doesn't make it clear.
- Who are the goats?
 - Pretend Christians?
 - CEO Christians?
- Just be sure to be a sheep!

HOW TO BE A SHEEP #1

- Listen for Holy Spirit. Then listen to the Holy Spirit. 5 virgins
- Take what God gave you & use it for Him. Servants & talents
- Be involved in outside ministries Sheep & goats
 - Evangelism, Hospital, Prison, other

HOW TO BE A SHEEP #2

- Have you really forgiven others when they offended you?
- Where do your eyes go?
- What are you filling your mind with?
- Do you have a Bible devotion every day?

THIS WAS THE END OF JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY

- **Matthew 26:1** Now it came to pass, **when Jesus had finished all these sayings**, *that* He said to His disciples,
- **Matthew 26:2** "You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified."

LAST WORDS OF JESUS TO PEOPLE: **BE READY**

- Listen for Holy Spirit. Then listen to the Holy Spirit. Virgins
- Take what God gave you & use it for Him. Talents
- Be involved in outside ministries Sheep
 - Evangelism, Hospital, Prison, other

NOW IS THE TIME TO BE SERIOUS

- **John 14:15** "If you love Me, keep My commandments."
- **John 13:35** "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

NOW IS THE TIME TO BE SERIOUS

- **Matthew 5:46** For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?
- **Matthew 6:14** "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."