

The Good, The Bad and The Slothful

Mat 25:13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

*(Mat 25:14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. 15 And unto one he gave five **talents** [Gk.5007-a certain weight (thence a coin rather than a sum of money)], to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his **several** [Gl.2398-own] ability; and straightway took his journey.) (Emp. Added)*

God does not expect any more from each of us as individuals than He knows we can handle. Each of us has an ability and we need to apply that ability to the work of evangelism.

Jas 1:17 **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above**, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with Whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18 **Of His own will** begat He us (*we are born*) **with the word** (*our tool and weapon*) of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. (Emp. Added)

2Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Eph 4:11 And **He gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors** (*Gk.4166-shepherds*) and **teachers**; 12 **For** the perfecting of the saints, for **the work** of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 **Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God,..** (*Preachers and teachers equip the members of the congregations for the work of the ministry.*) (Emp. Added)

Eph 4:16 From Whom the whole body (*the church*) fitly joined together and compacted by that which **every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working** (*Gk.1753-efficient energy*) **in the measure of every part** (*each person's energy combined*), **maketh increase of the body** unto (*for the purpose of*) the edifying of itself in love. (Emp. Added)

Each person works together toward the numerical growth of the congregation for the purpose of building the church up with the unfeigned love of the brethren. In other words, as the church grows so does the love!

1Co 10:13 ...**God** is faithful, who **will not suffer** (*allow*) **you** to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, **that ye may be able to bear it.** (Remember Job?) (Emp. Added)

The Nobleman

Luk 19:12 He said therefore, A certain **nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself** a kingdom, **and to return.** 13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds (*Gk.3424-a certain weight*), and said unto them, **Occupy** (*Gk.4231-busy oneself, that is, to trade*) **till I come.** (*Emp. Added*)
(We are to keep busy about the Master's will until He comes again. It is a sin to be idle. When a person is idle, he is usually up to no good. An idle mind is the Devil's playground.)

*1Ti 5:13 And withal they learn to be **idle** (Gk.692-inactive, unemployed, lazy, useless), wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. (Emp. Added)*

Act 1:9 And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

Act 2:33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise (*the kingdom/ church*) of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. (*Dan 7*)

Act 1:11 ... Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come** in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven. *...just a the nobleman in the parable.(Emp. Added)*

When He comes He will be expecting for us to have been busy!

Luk 19:14 But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this *man* to reign over us.

Joh 19:15 But they cried out, Away with *Him*, away with *Him*, crucify Him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify **your King?** The chief priests answered, **We have no king but Caesar.** (*Emp. Added*)

Luk 19:15 And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

This is the white throne judgement of Revelation 20:11.

Rom 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Luk 18:8 ... Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?

The Good

Luk 19:16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. 17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. 18 And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. 19 And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

Mar 10:29 And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the Gospel's, 30 But **he shall receive an hundredfold** now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and **in the world to come eternal life.**(*Emp. Added*)

Heb 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby **we may serve** God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: (*Emp. Added*)

The Bad and The Slothful

Jas 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and **not hearers only**, deceiving your own selves. (*Emp. Added*)

We are not to just hear the lesson, we are to live the lesson. We are deceiving ourselves if we think that sitting in the pew without sharing the message is pleasing to God. We often pray that the lessons we hear be taken into our hearts and minds and be applied to our lives, and rightly so. There are those who would be better served seeing a sermon lived by us than hearing one spoken.

Luk 19:20 And another came, saying, Lord, behold, *here is* thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin: 21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere (*strict, unbending like His rule*) man: thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow. 22 And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, *thou* wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow: 23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury?

If we are not going to be doing the work at least invest time and talent into supporting those who will. Not everyone can teach but almost anyone can host a Bible study and invite friends.

If we were to put a ten dollar bill into an envelope and then into a shoebox and put it in the attic for ten years, would you think it would be worth more or less after having been stored? Even if we were to put it into a savings account, it would have at least drawn interest in order to keep up with the rate of inflation. This is what we would call being slothful...lazy.

Luk 19:24 And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds. (*Remember, he was the one who “occupied” himself more than the others with the same amount to work with.*) [2 Pet 3:18 “grow”] 25 (And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.) 26 For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, **even that he hath shall be taken away from him.** (*Emp. Added*)

1Jn 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

The one who has life in Christ when He comes will retain it and so much more!

Joh 10:10 ... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

The one who doesn't have a life devoted to the cause of Christ will lose even the life he has.

Heb 10:31 *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

Luk 21:34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting (*Gk.2897-headache [as a seizure of pain] from drunkenness*), and drunkenness, and **cares of this life**, and so that day come upon you unawares. 35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. (*Emp. Added*)

The Wheat and the Tares

Luk 8:14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth (*they received a coin from the nobleman*), and are choked with **cares** and **riches** and **pleasures** of *this* life, and bring **no fruit to perfection.** (*Didn't even make interest on their Lord's investment [blood].*) (*Emp. Added*)

The Rich Man's Barns

Luk 12:15 And He said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Some people see God as a crutch to those who follow after Him. HE IS to those of us who lean on Him for everything we need. If He is considered our weakness then through our weaknesses we are strong because without Him we can't stand alone.

Luk 12:16 And He spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. 20

But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is **not rich toward God**. (*Emp. Added*)

Luk 19:27 But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay *them* before me.

Rom 9:2 ...I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. 3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: 4 Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of *God*, and the promises; 5 Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, Who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen. 6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they **are not all Israel**, which are of Israel: 7 Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, *are they* all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. 8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh (*Israelite by birth*), these *are* not the children of God (*Spiritual Israel*): but the children of the promise are counted for the seed. (*Emp. Added*)

Rom 11:23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again.

1Co 3:14 If **any man's work** abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If **any man's work** shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. (*Emp. Added*)

One person's work will produce fruit whereas another's will not. **But they both worked!** And that is what's necessary in order to be pleasing to God and thus saved. (*Emp. Added*)

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