

Invest in The Kingdom

Week 5 - The Covenant, The King, and The Kingdom (5-19-21)

The Parable of The Talents - Matt 25:14-30

I. "...and delivered unto them his goods." Vs 1

A. "We are not owners, we are managers of what God has given us!"

1. We have been given charge/authority on earth for a season, but the master is coming back!
 - a) 1 Corin. 6:19-20 "...ye are not your own..."
 - b) Who's life are you living? - Matt. 10:38-39
2. We will be held accountable for what we have done with what God has given us!
 - a) 2 Corin. 5:10
3. He is the potter, we are the clay - Jeremiah 18:1-6
 - a) We don't always like being molded by the maker, and many times we fold or get marred under the pressure but He just graciously starts over with us.
 - b) If the clay is not centered on the spinning wheel, it will be off balance and will warp.
 - (1) We need to be centered in God and who He is making us to be!
 - c) The potter's field was purchased with the blood money from Judas' betrayal of Jesus.
 - (1) It was a graveyard for broken and marred pottery that was then purchased for the burial of strangers or unknown people.
 - (2) Kintsugi = The Grace of God!
4. Jon - "Our job is to protect and expand that which God gives us."
 - a) "Use what you have, start where you are, let God bless the rest."
 - b) God gives us 3 things
 - (1) Time - opportunities
 - (2) Ability - capacity to be productive, a God ordained way for us to serve Him.
 - (3) resources - money, objects, etc.

II. "...every man according to his several ability..." Vs 15

A. He gave them responsibility according to their own ability.

1. God doesn't call us to do anything that we can't do.
 - a) He may stretch us and grow us, but will never ask us to do something that is out of our reach without His help.
 - b) He doesn't call the qualified, but qualifies those He calls.
2. They may not have known that they were capable of handling what they were given.
 - a) They were probably all challenged with what they were given, but not all of them handled it properly
 - b) The first two could have just as easily done what the third guy did with his allotment.
 - (1) Why didn't they? They approached it with faith, not fear!

- B. The master had high expectations for each servant
 - 1. What expectations does God have for me personally? What has He given you to work with?
 - 2. people in our culture get offended when they are expected to get things done.
 - a) Do we take God's expectations seriously?
 - C. The master didn't micro-manage what they did.
 - 1. Our culture needs to be more self-disciplined!
 - 2. We are disciples...disciplined!
- III. "...enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Vs 21 & 23
- A. joy of working/putting talents to use in spite of challenges.
 - 1. Trusting God and being obedient in faith
 - 2. Jesus endured the cross for the joy that was set before Him
 - 3. Perspective of the Master
 - a) Raise your children up with their giftings and talents in mind.
 - b) teach them to be disciplined in those things
 - B. joy of seeing your work and efforts serving the kingdom of God.
 - 1. Dennis' chair testimony - Who ever donated those chairs has the privilege of know that every Sunday people are able to attend church there because there are chairs to sit in.
 - C. Hebrews 12:1-2
 - 1. Lets run this race not getting caught up in the challenges but being propelled by them as we keep our eyes on the end goal; The hope that is set before us!
 - a) Jesus endured the cross knowing that in the end His humility and obedience would come to glorification by God and that it would accomplish what God had assigned for Him to do for the kingdom!
 - (1) Let us do the same!