

What Jesus Said about the End Times –
Wealthy Waiting



Matthew 24:45-51
Pew Bible, p. 830

4 Parables to teach what it
means to watch and be ready

First – Faithful and
Unmerciful Servants

Second – Ten Virgins

Third – Talents



3 Elements in Common

- There is a delay or absence
- The responses to the delay
- The consequences



Matthew 25: 14 “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. **15** To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. **16** He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. **17** So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. **18** But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. **19** Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' **21** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' **22** And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' **23** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, **25** so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' **26** But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? **27** Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.'

28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. **29** For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. **30** And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The spiritual meaning of the parable may be thus summed up:

1. The servants of God are not all endowed with equal gifts and talents.
2. All, whatever may be their ability, are bound to employ their talents in promoting His honor as they wait for his return.
3. By using their talents and abilities for God and in service to others, they improve and strengthen them.
4. They will be judged according to how they have used and improved their talents in service to others.
5. All sinners look on God as a hard master, and as unreasonable and tyrannical.
6. People will be judged not merely for "doing wrong, but for neglecting to do right."

Historical Context

1. Standard Operating Procedure
2. Value of a Talent



Historical Context

2. Value of a Talent

1 talent = 6,000 danarii

1 Talent = \$ 480,000

2 Talents = \$960,000 (\$1,920,000)

3 Talents = \$ 2,400,000 (\$4,800,000)

1. He ENTRUSTED to them his property

2. He gave them talents
according to their ABILITIES

3. He acknowledged their RESULTS

What Is a Talent?

Talent = Spiritual gifts and natural abilities or talents a disciple has been given for serving others. **Secondary meaning**

Secondary meaning?

The Mission of Jesus to seek and save the lost!

Matthew 25:15 (Pew Bible p. 830)

Vs. 14 – Entrusted to them his property

“The servants are to carry on the Masters business in his absence, to represent his goods (property) to those who are left behind, and to put his goods at the disposal of others.

**G. Campbell Morgan,
The Parables and Metaphors of Our Lord, Page
153**

Enter into the JOY of your master

The JOY of Jesus ?

Luke 15 & John 17

1. He ENTRUSTED to them his property

**2. He gave them talents
according to their ABILITIES**

3. He acknowledged their RESULTS

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Personal Qualities

Good and faithful

Wicked and slothful

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