



Sermon Notes

June 15, 2008
Tim Strickland

Where Your Treasure Is... #13
Engage in Business Until I Come
Luke 19:11-27

Luke 19:11-27 As they heard these things, he proceeded to tell a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. [12] He said therefore, "A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return. [13] Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Engage in business until I come.' [14] But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.' [15] When he returned, having received the kingdom, he ordered these servants to whom he had given the money to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by doing business. [16] The first came before him, saying, 'Lord, your mina has made ten minas more.' [17] And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.' And the second came, saying, 'Lord, your mina has made five minas.' [19] And he said to him, 'And you are to be over five cities.' [20] Then another came, saying, 'Lord, here is your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief; [21] for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man. You take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.' [22] He said to him, 'I will condemn you with your own words, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? [23] Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and at my coming I might have collected it with interest?' [24] And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas.' [25] And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!' [26] 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [27] But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slaughter them before me.' "

Introduction

Today: "**Engage in Business Until I Come**", Message #13 in "Where Your Treasure Is", a series about God, money & you

- Similar to the parable of the talents – Matthew 25:14-30

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The Purpose of the Parable (11)

- a. The Setting
 - On the way to Jerusalem in the home of Zacchaeus
- b. The Purpose
 - *he proceeded to tell them a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately*
 - Luke 18:31-34 – Jesus had told them the purpose of their trip to Jerusalem, but they did not understand
 - Luke 19:28-40 – The Triumphal Entry
 - Acts 1:6-8 – Even after Jesus' resurrection, the disciples still thought the kingdom would come immediately

1. Parting Commission: Engage in Business Until I Come (12-13)

- a. Jesus has received a kingdom and will return
 - Acts 2:32-33, Ephesians 1:20-21, Daniel 7:14
- b. Engage in business until I come
 - The servants (lit. slaves!) were entrusted with one mina (100 day's wages) and commanded to put the money to work until their Master's return
 - Stewardship – We are all stewards of everything Christ has entrusted to us, including our money
 - The command reminds us of the Great Commission
 - Matthew 28:18-20

2. Parting Complaints: We do not want this man to reign over us (14)

- But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.'*
- This verse parallels with historical events of that era
 - *'We do not want this man to reign over us.'*
 - Who's in charge? This issue causes people to reject Jesus – they refuse to give up their independence

3. Returning Rewards: Well done good servant! (15-19)

The King returns and calls His servants to account

- Servant #1: *Lord, your mina has made ten minas more*
- *'Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities*
 - Servant #2 is also rewarded with far greater responsibility in proportion to his faithfulness
- The reward is authority in the kingdom
 - Daniel 7:27, 1 Cor. 6:2, Rev. 2:26, 20:4

4. Returning Retribution Part 1: You wicked servant! (20-26)

- a. *"Lord, behold, your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief*
 - He did this out of fear that his master was severe and exacting
- b. The King condemns His servant by his own words
 - If you thought I was so severe, the least you could have done is put it in the bank to earn some interest for me!
- c. The mina is taken from the wicked servant and given to the first servant
 - *And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!' [26] 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.*

5. Returning Retribution Part 2: Bring them here and slaughter them before me (27)

NOTE: This verse may make us feel uncomfortable.

It is a fierce and frightening reality that every person will be judged by Jesus Christ, our great Warrior King.

- All who have rejected the reign of Christ (ie those who have not repented of their sins and trusted in Him as Lord and Saviour), will face eternal damnation in the fires of Hell, forever separated from God.
 - Luke 12:4-5
- When Jesus returns, he will lead a mighty army and will defeat those who oppose Him and will put them to death by the sword - Revelation 19:11-21
 - **Hebrews 10:31** *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*
- You don't want to be on the wrong side of this battle.

Our Response

1. Is Jesus Christ reigning in your life today? Who will be King? You or Christ? Repent of your sins and put your faith in Jesus Christ today!

John 3:36 *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

Romans 10:9 *because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

2 Corinthians 6:2 *Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

2. View yourself as a steward of everything God has given you – your money, your time, your skills, your spiritual gifts, your relationships etc...

Job 41:11 *Who has first given to me, that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine.* (The Lord speaking!)

Questions for Application

1. What does it mean to be a steward? Give some modern day examples.
2. What has the Lord given to you, over which you are a steward?
3. *"Engage in business until I come."* Discuss this command in light of today's message and its implications on your life. How did each of the three servants respond to this command?
4. *"We do not want this man to reign over us."* How is this attitude seen in people's lives today? What are the consequences of refusing the reign of Christ? Is Christ reigning in your life today?
5. Pray together for one another that the Lord would help you to be a wise steward of money, and of everything else that the Lord has entrusted to you.

Questions, Comments? - inthebeginning@look.ca

If you have questions or comments about today's message, please drop me an email to the address above. Thanks,

Tim



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