

Money – First Things First

Matthew 25:14-29

¹⁴“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ ²¹“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ ²²“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ ²³“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ ²⁴“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ ²⁶“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. ²⁸“So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

Luke 19:11-27

¹¹ ...he went on to tell them a parable... ¹²He said: “A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. ¹³So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. ‘Put this money to work,’ he said, ‘until I come back.’ ¹⁴“But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, ‘We don’t want this man to be our king.’ ¹⁵“He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it...

Bottom Line (Part 1):

G _____ o _____ i _____ a _____

Matthew 25:14

...a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them

Psalms 24:1

The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Job 41:11

Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me.

Haggai 2:8

‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty.

Psalms 50:9-12

⁹I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, ¹⁰for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. ¹¹I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine. ¹²If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.

Bottom Line (Part 2):

I have been e _____ with h _____ p _____

John 3:27

To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven.

1 Corinthians 4:7

For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

Matthew 25:14

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them.

Matthew 25:19

“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

Matthew 25:27

Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

Luke 3:7-14

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ “What should we do then?” the crowd asked. ¹¹ John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.” ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?” ¹³ “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them. ¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

Fruit #1 (3:10-11):

Fruit #2 (3:12-13):

Fruit #3 (3:14):

1. God wants to develop a f_____ r_____ with me
2. What I do with money/resources must align with God’s h_____ and God’s a_____
3. E_____ spending decision is a s_____ decision

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

¹⁷ You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

4. Money is a r_____ r_____

Isaiah 46:10-11

¹⁰ ...I say, ‘My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.’ ¹¹ From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose...