

# Parables

MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM

PARABLE OF THE TALENTS  
MATTHEW 25:14-30

**Are You Faithful?**



**MATTHEW 25:1** *“THEN THE  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WILL BE...*

Matthew 13:11-13, 16, 17

Jesus answered them, “To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted. “For whoever has, to him *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him. “Therefore I speak to them in parables; because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

# MATTHEW 13:16, 17

**“But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. “For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see *it*, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear *it*.”**

GOD OWNS EVERYTHING AND ALL WE HAVE COMES FROM HIM.

*Vs. 14 “For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them*

# LUKE 16 SHREWD MANAGER



# I CORINTHIANS 4:1, 2

Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and **stewards of the mysteries of God.** In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.

## EPHESIANS 3:8-10

To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, and **to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery** which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*.

# I CORINTHIANS 3:16, 17

Do you not know that **you are a temple of God** and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

# THE CHURCH: TEMPLE OF GOD

**Church = Birthed by Baptism by Holy Spirit**

**I Corinthians 12:13**

**For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit**

# THE CHURCH: TEMPLE OF GOD

**Church = Foundation Sound Doctrine**

| Timothy 4:6

In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the **sound doctrine** which you have been following

# THE CHURCH: TEMPLE OF GOD

Church = Purpose to teach the Word  
and live it.

I Timothy 2:14, 15

Remind *them* of these things, and solemnly charge *them* in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless *and leads* to the ruin of the hearers. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

# THE CHURCH: TEMPLE OF GOD

Church = Leadership of Elder authority

I Peter 5:2, 3

Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of God*; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

# THE CHURCH: TEMPLE OF GOD

Church = Community of support  
and accountability.

I Timothy 5:20

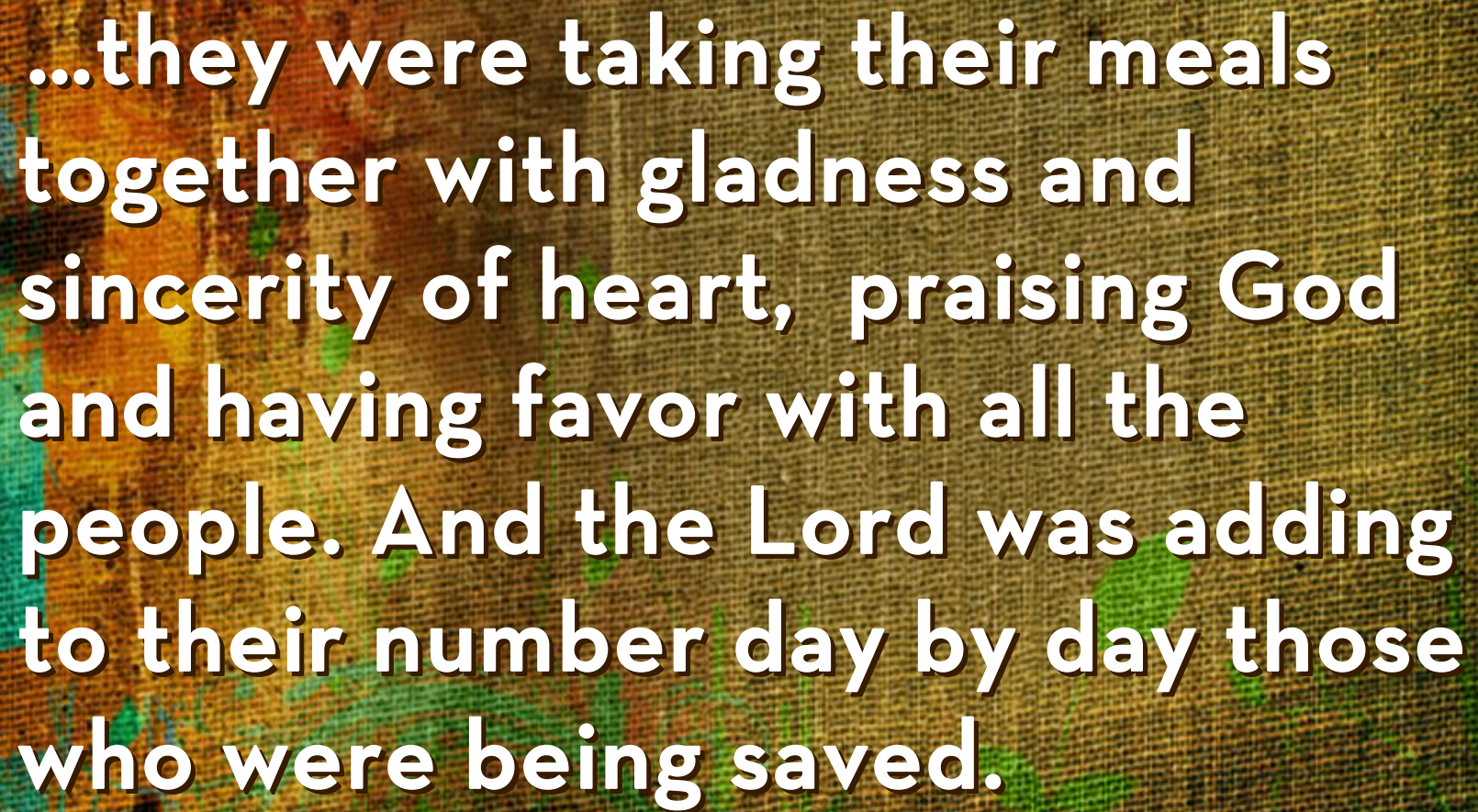
Those who continue in sin,  
rebuke in the presence of all, so  
that the rest also will be fearful  
*of sinning*

# THE CHURCH: TEMPLE OF GOD

**Church = Community of support  
and accountability.**

**Acts 2:43-47**

**Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house,**



**...they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.**

# HEBREWS 10:23-25

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

GOD WILL GIVE TO EACH OF US A DIFFERENT MEASURE OF “TALENTS” TO INVEST IN HIS KINGDOM.

*Vs. 15, 16 “To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.*

*“Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents*

KINDS OF *“TALENTS”* WE MAY  
BE GIVEN:

Financial “talents”

I Timothy 6:17-19

# I TIMOTHY 6:17-19

Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on **God, who richly supplies us with all things** to enjoy. *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

# CHRISTIANITY TODAY

*American Christians' lack of generosity might not be as shocking if it didn't contrast so starkly with their astounding wealth. Passing the Plate's researchers say committed American Christians—those who say their faith is very important to them and those who attend church at least twice a month—earn more than \$2.5 trillion dollars every year.*

On their own, these Christians could be admitted to the G7, the group of the world's seven largest economies. Smith and his coauthors estimate that if these Christians gave away 10 percent of their after-tax earnings, they would add another \$46 billion to ministry around the world.

KINDS OF *“TALENTS”* WE MAY  
BE GIVEN:

Suffering *“talents”*

II Corinthians 12:7-9; 4:16-18

## II CORINTHIANS 12:7-9

Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, **there was given me a thorn in the flesh**, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

# STEVE AND TRACY GEIS



KINDS OF *"TALENTS"* WE MAY  
BE GIVEN:

Service "talents"

I Peter 4:10, 11; I Corinthians 12:4-  
11, 28-31

# I PETER 4:10, 11

As **each one has received a special gift**, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.<sup>11</sup> Whoever speaks, *is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God*; whoever serves *is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies*; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

# Parables

MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM

## THE LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD

MATTHEW 20:1-16

Living in the  
Grace of God



# Parables

MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM

Parable of the Hidden  
Treasure and Pearl

MATTHEW 13:44-46

**A Treasured Possession**



BUT, THERE IS A SURPRISING  
SOLUTION:

God sees great value in us to seek us  
as His own possession.



GOD WILL HOLD US  
ACCOUNTABLE FOR HOW WELL WE  
INVESTED HIS “TALENTS” FOR HIS  
KINGDOM.

*Vs. 29 “For to everyone who has,  
more shall be given, and he will  
have an abundance; but from the  
one who does not have, even what  
he does have shall be taken away*

# HE WILL JUDGE SOME: MATTHEW 25:24-27

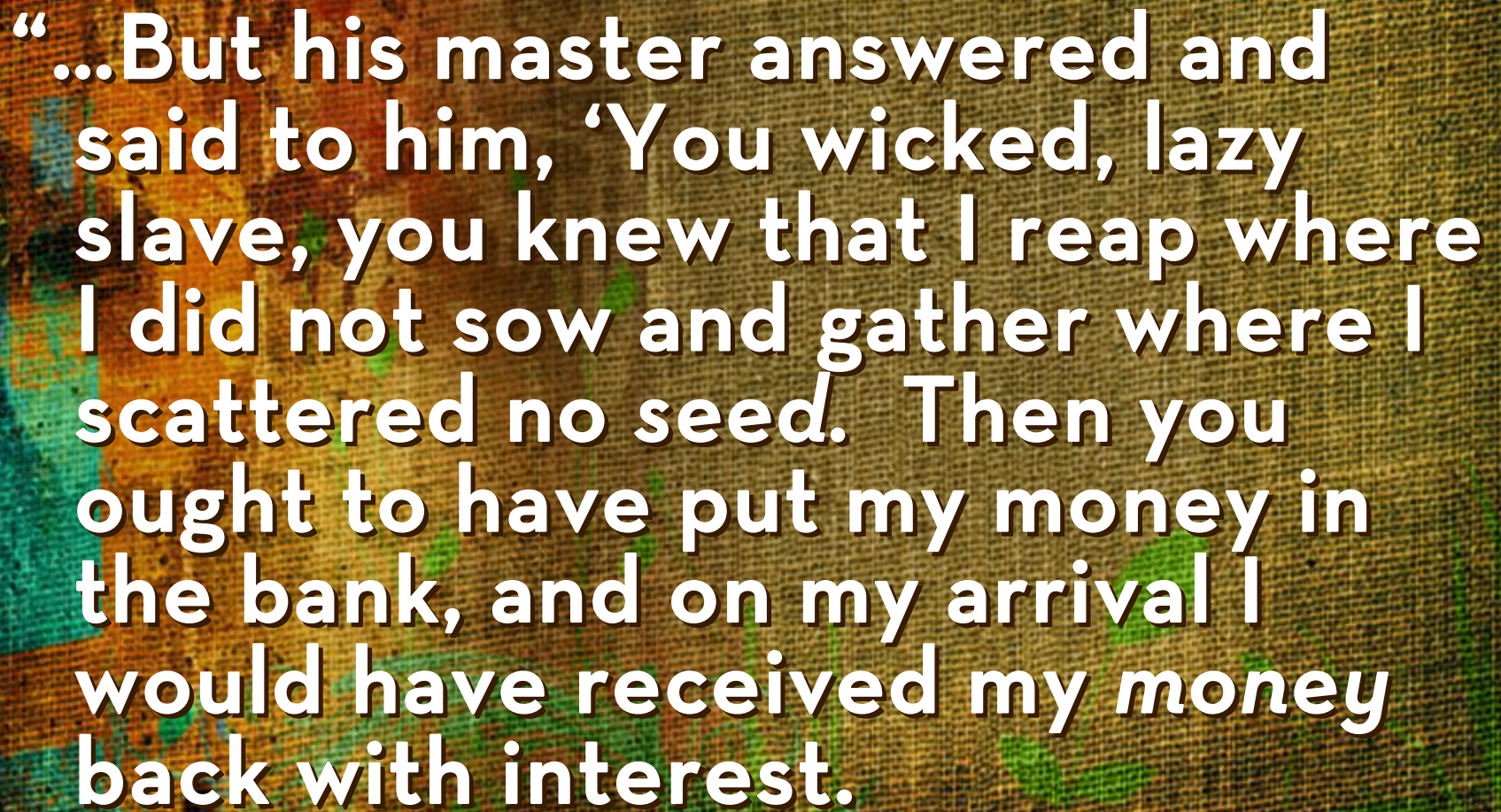
Fig tree parable.

Matthew 24:45 “Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time?46 “Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.

HE WILL JUDGE SOME:

MATTHEW 25:24-27

“And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. ‘And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours....’



“...But his master answered and said to him, ‘You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest.’

# HE WILL JUDGE SOME: MATTHEW 25:24-27

**Rationalization:** I knew you to be a hard man... Blame Him.

**Poor image of God:** “Hard man” Unfair.

**Laziness:** You...lazy slave...

**Sin:** You wicked...slave.

**Quitter:** He buried the “talent.”

**HE WILL REWARD SOME:  
MATTHEW 25:21-23**

**“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’**

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MATTHEW 25:14-30

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