

What Are You Going To Say At Your Judgement?

Mt 16:24–26 (NKJV) — 24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. **25** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. **26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Mt 16:27 (NKJV) — 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

Mt 25:13–30 (NKJV) — 13 “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

- I. Life is choice driven and so are blessings. We choose whether we want to be bless by God or not. It is up to the individual and it is an individual thing whether you will receive continual blessings from God now in this life or in the world to come. It is up to you!

Dt 30:19 (NKJV) — 19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

BLESSING IN LIFE ARE CHOICE DRIVEN

WE WILL BE BLESSED OR NOT BECAUSE OF THE CHOICES WE MAKE.

- A. Every day we make choices to serve God or our own desires
- B. We may think we are getting away with poor choices but there's going to be a judgment!
 1. We may think everything is fine but one day we will find that we are wrong, and God does not think the same way we do.
 2. The story told us in Matthew 25:14 reveals that God has an expectation of what we do in this life.
 - a. Additionally, he reveals to us that he has given us certain gifts and talents that he expects to be used for his glory.
 3. The story tells us that when he returns, he expects a return on what he has given us and will look to us to give an account of our activities.

- II. **Mt 25:13 (NKJV) — 13** “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

WATCH OUT! THE FATHER IS GOING TO HOLD US ALL ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE USE OF THE GIFTS HE HAS GIVEN US!

- A. Just like on our jobs we have a performance appraisal, at the end of our lives where we will have an appraisal of our life before Christ.
Heb 9:27 (NKJV) — 27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

1. The corporate world expects you to do things that benefit the business. You have no problem with that but unfortunately you don't understand that God also has an expectation that you do things that benefit his kingdom!
2. We work on a job and we should also work for God. Why is it so easy to work for a, "J", "O", "B" and so hard to work for "G", "O", "B"?
3. The father will have an accounting of how you have been spending
 - a. your time
 - b. your money
 - c. your energy towards what goals
4. To him, only one thing is important!

Ec 12:13–14 (NKJV) — 13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

THE FATHER EXPECTS YOU TO PRODUCE FRUIT TO HIS GLORY AS A RETURN ON HIS INVESTMENT IN YOUR LIFE

Jn 15:8 (NKJV) — 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

- B. The Father has an expectation that you will live your life to his glory!
- C. It is important that we never forget that one day we will stand before the father to judge the works that we have done. We can see that all throughout history death comes to every man and the word of God tells us that after death comes the judgment.

Job 14:5 (NIV84) — 5 Man's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.

Ps 90:12 (NKJV) — 12 So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Ro 12:1 (NKJV) — 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

- D. He has given us the parable of the talents to let us know how we are to live choosing what gives him glory!

- III. Let us look at the story and remember all throughout that there is going to be an accounting.

14 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called *his own servants* and *delivered his goods* to them.

- A. Both the servants and goods belong to the Master!

Ps 24:1 (ESV) — 1 The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and *those who dwell therein*,

1 Co 6:19–20 (ESV) — 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1. Get This!

YOU OWE GOD YOUR VERY EXISTENCE!

B. The Father gives you the tools to work with. He is expecting you to use what he is giving you for his glory.

1. You do not need to look to others to try to be like them he has given you all you need to be successful!

TRUE SUCCESS IS BEING ABLE TO HEAR GOD SAY WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

IV. **15 And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.**

A. The use of the word talents here represents something that is extremely valuable.

1. This is not about natural talents this is about spiritual talents.

2. This is a reference to the spiritual gifts that God has given us.

THE GIFTS OF GOD ARE OF SUPERNATURAL VALUE AND SHOULD NOT BE WASTED!

B. God has given all of us talents. By talents we mean gifts.

1. Some may have a little, some may have many, but all have something.

a. How are the talents and gifts given? **According to your ability to use it.**

2. Again, do not worry about another's gifting. We all vary greatly in what we have been given. Everyone is different. But everyone is responsible to use whatever the Lord has given them for his benefit.

a. You must work with the gifting you have been given.

b. We must not get envious or start comparing of what others have. We must work with what we have.

c. God does not judge you by what others do.

d. God judges you as to whether you are faithful with what he has given you.

C. What has he given you?

1 Co 12:7 (NKJV) — 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

1 Co 14:12 (NKJV) — 12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.

Eph 4:12 (NKJV) — 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

- D. Understand this; God is also giving to you every time you sit under teaching, read the word and you get a revelation from God, he is giving you a gift he expects you to use.
- E. You are responsible for the word that you hear! God expects you to use it for his glory!
- F. Everything we have has been given to us by God! What we are given is by the grace of God. To some he gives much and to others he gives little. He decides what each one is to receive not us.
 - 1. However, notice he gives to each according to their ability.
 - 2. If you feel you need to have more, perhaps you do not because you are not faithful with the little that you already have!
 - 3. God has given to each of us according to our ability. Whether we do much a little is dependent upon us not him!
- G. Some of us do not believe that we owe God anything, but the Scripture said the talents were given by the master. Everything you have, has come from God. Again, he expects you to use the everything you have for his glory!
 - 1. Sometimes God gives you things just as a test gift. He is testing you to see if you will be faithful with the thing he gives to you.
 - a. He will give to you for you to give to his missions and for his purposes.
 - b. He gives to you and expects you to give 1/10 back to him.
 - 2. He gives to you and will see if you will invest it wisely.
 - a. he may have given you a car to see if you will use it to get back and forth the church, prayer meeting, choir practice, Bible study instead of the club, your job, your boo's house.
 - b. he may give you money to help the church teach and prosper.
 - c. He may give you time to see if you will use it for his glory. If you are faithful with the use of your time, he may extend your time and I help you accomplish much more with the time that you have left.
 - 3. He does not expect you to use what he has not given you.
 - a. This means you have to stop saying, "I would if I only had".
 - b. You are to be faithful with what you have. Then, we read further
Mt 25:23 (NKJV) — 23 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

Mt 25:29 (NKJV) — 29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

- V. **16 Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 And likewise he who had received two gained two more also.**

Mt 25:16 (ESV) — 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more.

- A. Now, first notice how God expects you to use what he gives to you. He expects you to use it immediately.

GOD EXPECTS YOU TO USE THE GIFTS HE HAS GIVEN YOU RIGHT AWAY AND NOT WAIT UNTIL LATER

- B. You are not promised tomorrow all you have is the here and now.
C. You are to use what God has given you for the benefit of his kingdom. God created you for himself and not for your benefit.

Is 43:7 (NKJV) — 7 Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”

Eph 1:11–12 (NKJV) — 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Pr 3:9–10 (NKJV) — 9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

- D. He gives us the example of these two to show us this is what is expected of each of us.
1. We also see that God rewards those who are faithful in using what he has given them for him.

GOD IS FAITHFUL AND REWARDS THOSE WHO USE WHAT HE HAS GIVEN THEM FOR HIM

- VI. **18 But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.**

- A. We are given this example so that we will know how not to live our lives with the gift things that God has given us.

B.

- VII. **19 After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.**

- A. Please note, Jesus is coming back, and he has an expectation to find you having been faithful in what he is given you.

1. What have you been doing what he has given you already?

- a. Have you been using it for his glory? Or are you using it for your own benefit?

2. Don't forget, you will be held to account for the work that you have done when he returns!
- B. The Lord is going to look at you and say what have you done with the life I gave you?
 1. Did you live it for my glory? Did you live it for your glory?
 2. Did you live it trying to get for yourself? Or did you live it for my kingdom?
 3. Did you do it for money? Or did you do it to hear me say well done? Was money the only important thing? Did you serve money rather than me?

YOU MUST NEVER FORGET THERE IS GOING TO BE A JUDGMENT FOR THE WORKS THAT YOU HAVE DONE

1 Pe 1:17 (NKJV) — 17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, **conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;**

- VIII. **20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.'**

21 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

- A. God rewards all of those who do things that benefit his kingdom. You trust an employer to pay you at the work first. We trust them to pay us when they are not more certain than God. Why don't we learn to trust God the same way we do human employers?

- IX. **22 He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.'**

23 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

- A. Notice, that the one that had 5 talents and the one that had 2 talents in the same reward.
 1. This means that God does not judge us according to productivity he judges us according to faithfulness!
 2. You don't have to be the best. You don't have to be number one. You don't even have to succeed. You just have to be faithful!

AT THE JUDGEMENT CAN YOU EXPECT TO HEAR THE WORDS, "WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT"?

- X. **24 "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering**

where you have not scattered seed. 25 And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

A. First of all, get this through your head God does not want excuses as to why you have not glorified him!

XI. **26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 27 So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.**

A. Notice this servant is called wicked! He is called wicked because he makes his master be as he thinks he is and not the way that he really is.

**DO NOT MAKE GOD BE A GOD OF YOUR UNDERSTANDING
WORSHIP HIM FOR WHO HE IS, MASTER OVER YOUR LIFE**

B. See also God expected interest. In all of our ways we have to acknowledge him!

1. We all rob God when we don't do things that benefit his kingdom and we have the opportunity to do so. He expects us to use every opportunity to glorify him!
2. We have to learn also to give in the right places. Not everyplace is a place that gives glory to God.
 - a. We have to be careful even the kind of church we give to. Not all churches of churches that give glory to God by building up his kingdom and his saints.
 - b. How can you say you love God in his program goes suffering?

XII. **28 So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'**

A. This lets us know there is a hell! He also spoke of this and another comparison.

Mt 25:41 (NKJV) — 41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

1. God's gifts are nothing to play with! He expects you to use them for his glory or else!
2. We are not saved by works. We are saved by faith in Jesus Christ alone by the grace of God!

**A FAITH THAT DOES NOT SERVE
IS NOT A FAITH THAT SAVES**

3. How many souls may be lost in hell simply because you did not use what God gave you to help others?
4. How many people may not benefit because you did not do your part to help?

- B. If you do not use what God has given you it will be taken away from you and given to another who will.
1. How many blessings have you been missing out on simply because you have not been faithful to God's kingdom with what you already have?
 2. Has God been blessing somebody else because he cannot trust you to bless you with more?
 3. If you don't support God's ministry, why should he give to you when there are others who will?
 4. We rob God when we are not responsible with the blessings he gives us. He gave us those blessings to be a blessing to others in his kingdom.
 5. We must be extremely careful with our time, our money and our gifts!
 6. God does not have to beg you to give to him! There is always somebody else who will!

**FAITH WITHOUT WORKS OF SERVICE FOR GOD
IS NOT FAITH THAT GOD WILL HONOR**

XIII.

What Are You Going To Say At Your Judgement?

Mt 25:13–30 (NKJV) — 13 “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.