

Short Stories - Epic Truths

Summer 2018

“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.”

(Matthew 25:14–15 ESV)

“He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money.”

(Matthew 25:16–18 ESV)

“Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 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.’ 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.’”
(Matthew 25:19–21 ESV)

“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.’ 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.’”

(Matthew 25:22–23 ESV)

“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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’”

(Matthew 25:24–25 ESV)

“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? 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. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.’”

(Matthew 25:26–28 ESV)

“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. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

(Matthew 25:29–30 ESV)

God's grace has given every person abilities and resources to be used for the Kingdom (vs 14-15).

We are all doing something with the abilities and resources God has given to us (vs 16-18).

There will be a reckoning day for every person. God will take inventory of how faithful and trustworthy we have been with what he has given to us (vs 19-30).

God's assessment of our faithfulness (or trustworthiness) *doesn't have to do with* the amount of return on investment, it *has to do with* our faithfulness and trustworthiness of what has been given to us.

What you do with what God has entrusted to you has lasting implications.

God has entrusted you to carry the
very image of God within you.

““Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.””

(Matthew 22:36–40 ESV)

Worship – to love the Lord your
God with all your heart, soul, mind,
and strength.

Mission – to love your neighbor as
yourself.

“And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. *Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’*”

(Acts 17:26–28 ESV)

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