



### **Matthew 25:14-30**

- Matt. 25:14 “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.
- Matt. 25:15 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.
- Matt. 25:16 Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents.
- Matt. 25:17 And likewise he who had received two gained two more also.
- Matt. 25:18 But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money.
- Matt. 25:19 After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
- Matt. 25:20 “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.’
- Matt. 25:21 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.’
- Matt. 25:22 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.’
- Matt. 25:23 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.’
- Matt. 25:24 “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.
- Matt. 25:25 And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’
- Matt. 25:26 “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.
- Matt. 25:27 So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.
- Matt. 25:28 So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.
- Matt. 25:29 “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.
- Matt. 25:30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

## Observations & Discussion

1. Let's begin by defining the characters in this Parable. Remember, the context of the Parable is the Jewish people living during the Tribulation.

Who is the "man traveling to a far country"?

Who are the "servants"?

What does the "long time" in vs. 19 represent?

2. Note: a "**talent**" is a measurement of weight—about 80 pounds. The word "**money**" in vss. 18 & 27 is the Greek *argurion*—silver! The price of silver today is \$22 per ounce. Do a little math to figure out the value of silver that each servant was entrusted with.

The servant with 5 talents = \$

The servant with 2 talents = \$

The servant with 1 talent = \$

The point here is that each servant was entrusted with a substantial amount of cash!

3. Talents in this Parable are a metaphor. What do you think the talents represent in our lives? What talents has Jesus entrusted to *you*?

4. Compare vs. 19 to Matthew 24:48 & Matthew 25:5. What do these verses indicate about the time between Jesus' ascension to Heaven and His return to the earth? Now look at 2Peter 3:3-9.

5. In vs. 15 we're informed that each servant was given talents "*according to his own ability.*" What do you think that means and how does it relate to the way in which you will be evaluated by Jesus for how you used your talents?

6. By what criteria does the Master in the Parable judge and reward or rebuke each servant?

7. Compare the fate of the wicked and lazy servant with 1Cor. 3:9-15. Based on these two scriptures is the wicked and lazy servant a Messianic (i.e. saved)?