

**SERMON DATE:** February 14, 2021

**SERMON SERIES:** A Consistent Walk with God

**SERMON TITLE:** Giving God a Good Return

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

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<sup>14</sup> “For *it is* just like a man *about* to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. <sup>17</sup> In the same manner the one who *had received* the two *talents* gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But he who received the one *talent* went away, and dug a *hole* in the ground and hid his master’s money.

<sup>19</sup> “Now after a long time the master of those slaves *\*came and \*settled* accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup> 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.’

<sup>22</sup> “Also the one who *had received* the two talents came up and said, ‘Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup> 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.’

<sup>24</sup> “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. <sup>25</sup> And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’

<sup>26</sup> “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

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no seed. <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have put my money <sup>[d]</sup>in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest. <sup>28</sup> Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

<sup>29</sup> "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. <sup>30</sup> Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

### SUMMARY STATEMENT

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God rewards faithfulness with greater responsibility.

### INTRODUCTION

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Faithfulness is giving God a good return for His investment in us. The key components are duty, loyalty, responsibility, and reliability.

#### Point #1

##### ***God expects faithfulness.***

<sup>14</sup> "For *it is* just like a man *about* to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. <sup>17</sup> In the same manner the one who *had received* the two *talents* gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But he who received the one *talent* went away, and dug a *hole* in the ground and hid his master's money.'

(Matthew 25:14-18)

Lesson #1: The expected return should be in proportion to that which was entrusted.

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**Point #2*****God tests our faithfulness.***

<sup>19</sup> “Now after a long time the master of those slaves \*came and \*settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup> 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 25:19-25)

Lesson #2: Your attitude becomes your testimony.

**Point #3*****God judges our faithfulness.***

<sup>26</sup> “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. <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have put my money <sup>[d]</sup>in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest. <sup>28</sup> Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.’

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<sup>29</sup> “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. <sup>30</sup> Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

(Matthew 25:26-30)

Lesson #3: God has the last word when it comes to faithfulness.