

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SPRING PURSUIT

BEING WATCHFUL IN LIFE AND FAITHFUL IN SERVICE

Session Five & Six

Being Faithful in Service

Scripture Reading: Matt. 25:14-30

- I. "The kingdom of the heavens is just like a man about to go abroad, who called his own slaves and delivered to them his possessions"—Matt. 25:14; cf. 24:41:**
 - A. Slaves signify believers from the aspect of service—we are His purchased slaves—1 Cor. 7:23.
 - B. *His possessions* signify the church with all the believers who are His household.
- II. "To one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, each according to his ability. And he went abroad"—25:15:**
 - A. Talents signify spiritual gifts that we may accomplish what the Lord intends to accomplish.
 - B. The filling of the Spirit in life enables us to use the spiritual gift in service (work).
 - C. *Own ability* signifies our natural ability constituted of God's creation and our learning.
- III. "Immediately he who had received the five talents went and traded with them and gained another five. Similarly, he who had received the two gained another two. But he who had received the one went off and dug in the earth and hid his master's money"—25: 16-18:**
 - A. *Trading with them* (talents) signifies our using of the gift that the Lord has given us.
 - B. *Gained another five* (talents) signifies that the gift we received from the Lord has been used to the fullest extent, without any loss or waste—v. 16-17.
 - C. *Dug in the earth* signifies becoming involved in the world which buries the gift we received.
 - D. *Hid his master's money* signifies our gift being useless or letting it lie waste under excuses.
 - E. The danger with the one-talented ones is to consider their gift the smallest—cf. 1 Cor. 14:26.
- IV. "Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came and brought another five talents...His master said to him, Well done good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master"—vv. 20-21. Cf. 22-23:**
 - A. *A long time* signifies the entire church age after which the Lord will come to settle accounts.
 - B. *Settled accounts* signifies the judgment seat where the believers living and work will be judged for reward or punishment—2 Cor. 5:10.
 - C. *The joy of your master* signifies the enjoyment of the Lord in the coming kingdom.
 - D. The Lord gave the same reward to the all of the faithful members indicating the Lord's reward is not related to the size of our work but our faithfulness with His gift to the fullest extent.