

Sermon Notes

8-28-16 Ken Carlton

Providence Community Church

Title: TALENTS IN THE TEXT

Main Text: Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon Description: The multifaceted nature of the interim stages of the Kingdom of God continue to be the great concern of Jesus' latter teaching ministry. An entire paradigm shift is necessary for the disciples to grasp the reality of God's sovereign hand in unfolding redemptive history. The last discourse deals at great length and detail with time lapses between unmistakable and spectacular divine interventions. It is these times between the ascension and the coming of Christ in covenantal judgment – for instance – or the time between the apostolic age and His second coming, that require the hortatory value of these waiting parables. We need them today. Consider again our 3 working themes for this section: Danger, Diligence, and Decisive reckoning. Given the sober realities of this parable, the question of application becomes all the more pressing and may give rise to these questions: What, after all, is a 'talent'.... and How can I steward the Master's property unto His glory? I take Mat 25:14-30 as a summary parable in symbolic form restating practical and specific instruction given in at least four other places in the gospel. As we expound these this today, consider how they stretch muscle and sinew on the skeletal framework of the second of the Kingdom waiting parables...

Headings: INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES DEMONSTRATED IN MATTHEW...

-OR- FOUR TYPES OF TALENTS IN MATTHEW...

1. GOSPEL TEMPERMENT (Mt 5:1-12)

- a. Willing to loose (3-5)
- b. Endeavor to gain (6-8)
- c. Perseverance in conflict (9-11)

2. SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES (Mt 6:18)

- a. Sacrificial giving (2-4)
- b. Prayer (5-13)
- c. Forgiveness (14-15)
- d. Fasting (16-18)

3. RELATIONSHIPS (Mt 10:32-42)

- a. Acknowledging Christ (32-33)
- b. Loosing our life (34-39)
- c. Receiving His own (40-42)

Close: MATERIAL POSSESSIONS as talents also appear in the text that follows.... Notice the contrast between the woman with the alabaster flask and Judas betrayal for 30 pieces of silver (26:6-16).

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Overview	Loose/gain	Giving/prayer	Forgiveness/fasting	Relationships	Possessions
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Mt 25:14-30	Mt 5:3-8	Mt 6:2-13	Mt 6:14-18	Mt 10:32-42	Mt 26:6-16

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Excerpts' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Hebrews 9:23-28Once for all... (Communion Sunday)