

28 Parables of Jesus  
Are You Spending God's Talents?  
Bible Sermon Study Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr

COL Chapters 25: "Talents"

**A perfect storm is brewing?** Signs are filling extremely fast! Questions: Are you ready? Have you been totally converted to God truth and will? Have you made a total disconnect from the ways of the world and sin? If you have not, when? Are you abiding in Christ? Are you bearing the fruits of the Spirit? What will you be doing when your and all the you have done goes before the courts of heaven?

Are you still a protestant? Do you expose that man of sin the little horn of Daniel and the beast of Revelation, Papal Rome? Do you still protest like Martin Luther of all the gross unbiblical errors of the papacy and its blasphemous ways?

**The image of the beast is complete and on the prowl and gaining power through the papacy's ecumenical movement of unifying all the major religions around the world.**

**Unity' call on Reformation anniversary**

By Martin Bashir Religious Affairs Correspondent , 17 January 2017 BBC News  
(<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-38654259>)

"The Church of England has said Protestants should "repent of their part in perpetuating divisions" - 500 years after the Reformation began the split from the Roman Catholic Church in Europe.

A statement from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York has said the split caused "lasting damage" to the unity of the Church - something that contradicted the teaching of Jesus and left a "legacy of mistrust and competition".

It went on to say: "Such repentance needs to be linked to action aimed at reaching out to other churches and strengthening relationships with them."

The historic rupture, which began in October 1517 when the German monk Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral, led to centuries of violence, where rulers of one Church would frequently execute communicant members of the other.

**Is unity the most important thing to Pope Francis?** (<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/is-unity-the-most-important-thing-to-pope-francis-48247/>) Catholic News Agency (CNA) January 9, 2017 -

Vatican City, Jan 9, 2017 / 04:04 pm ([CNA](#)).- Pope Francis has decided to begin 2017 in much the same way as he did last year: praying for Christian unity.

And it's this drive for unity – not only among Christians but with other religions as well – that's emerged as sort-of personal manifesto from practically the moment he took office.

At the beginning of each year the Pope's prayer intentions for the next 12 months are released, showing topics he wants to draw attention to throughout the year. This year, Christian unity is setting the tone.

28 Parables of Jesus.... Talents

**Before Jesus gave the parable about the talents in Matthew 25, what urgent plea does God give you to be prepared for the His second coming and not be swept away by the mark of the beast crisis and the time of**

## trouble?

### Matthew 25:13

13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Watch [Greek] - keep awake, that is, watch (literally or figuratively): - be vigilant (alert, attentive) wake!

### Mark 13:33-37

33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

34 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

### What are some examples that we are to watch for? (get feedback from church)

- 1) Fulfilling prophecy of the nearness of Christ
- 2) Character development in the likeness of Christian
- 3) Not yielding to the temptation of the devil
- 4) Truth vs Error

### Luke 21:34-36

34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged [burdened] with surfeiting [headaches from drunkenness], and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

### Can you afford to be overcharged with the wine of Babylon, the world, and the cares of this life?

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

1Pe 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

We cannot take our eyes off Jesus and His word! We must have total communion with Christ through the day.

1Th 5:17 Pray without ceasing

### What does it practically mean to watch for the second coming of Jesus?

In Matthew 25 in the parable of the talents Jesus makes the concept of Christians "watching" for the second come of Christ extremely practical and very personal.

"Again He repeated the warning, "Watch therefore; for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." Then He showed what it means to watch for His coming. The time is to be spent, not in idle waiting, but in **diligent working**. This lesson He taught in the parable of the talents." COL 325

Watching = Diligent Working

## **What is the parable of the talents and it's lessons on diligent work that Jesus personally gives all of us?**

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

14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

### **In the parable who is the man traveling into a far country? Jesus**

### **John 14:1-3**

1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

### **When did Jesus go into a far country?**

### **Acts 1:9-11**

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

**Who are the servants in this parable?** The professed people of God who say they believe in Jesus.

**What does the man give His servants before He “went into a far country”?**  
“delivered unto them his **goods**.”

**In a general sense, who does “His goods” represent?** [Think about it! ]

**What did Jesus tell the disciples before he went back “into a far country”, Heaven, in the clouds?**

Acts 1:4-5

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but **wait for the promise of the Father**, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the **Holy Ghost** not many days hence.

John 14:16-17

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

**In general - “His goods” = Holy Ghost**

**In the context of “His goods” why does Jesus go “into a far country”?**

John 16:5-7

5 But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou?

6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart.

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

**What is the purpose of “His goods”, the Holy Ghost, when he is given and received by God’s people?**

Joh\_14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Joh 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.

Act 1:8 But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

**What does the Holy Ghost impart to others who receive Him?**

“The talents that Christ entrusts to His church represent especially the gifts and blessings imparted by the Holy Spirit.... All men do not receive the same gifts, but to every servant of the Master some gift of the Spirit is promised.” COL 327

**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers

kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

To all who sincerely receive the Holy Spirit God will GIVE “talents and gifts” to the receiver for the purpose of building up the kingdom of God! He divides these gifts as He sees fit based on our humility, character, and diligence.

“Before He left His disciples, Christ “breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.” John 20:22. Again He said, “Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you.” Luke 24:49. But not until after the ascension was the gift received in its fullness. Not until through faith and prayer the disciples had surrendered themselves fully for His working was the outpouring of the Spirit received. Then in a special sense the goods of heaven were committed to the followers of Christ. “When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.” Ephesians 4:8. “Unto every one of us is given grace, according to the measure of the gift of Christ,” the Spirit “dividing to every man severally as He will.” Ephesians 4:7; 1 Corinthians 12:11. **The gifts are already ours in Christ, but their actual possession depends upon our reception of the Spirit of God.**” COL 327

“The promise of the Spirit is not appreciated as it should be. Its fulfillment is not realized as it might be. It is the absence of the Spirit that makes the gospel ministry so powerless. Learning, talents, eloquence, every natural or acquired endowment, may be possessed; but without the presence of the Spirit of God, no heart will be touched, no sinner be won to Christ. On the other hand, if they are connected with Christ, if the gifts of the Spirit are theirs, the poorest and most ignorant of His disciples will have a power that will tell upon hearts. God makes them the channel for the outworking of the highest influence in the universe.” COL 328

### **What is a “talent” in the parable? And what does it represent in general?**

A talent is literally a certain amount of money. It represents something of value that can be spent or exchanged for something of equal or greater value.

Think about it. A dollar is useless unless it is spent! It has no power until it is spent!

### **What does “talent” represent spiritually for remnant people of God?**

The gifts, abilities, money, time, experience, and influence are “talents” that are given to us by God for all who believe in Jesus Christ. These precious talents are given to be spent for the kingdom of God. In exchange for spending the talent that God gives you for HIS purpose are souls for the kingdom of God. These souls are a MUCH greater value than the talent that you spent!

“The special gifts of the Spirit are not the only talents represented in the parable. It includes all gifts and endowments, whether original or acquired, natural or spiritual. All are to be employed in Christ's service. In becoming His disciples, we surrender ourselves to Him with all that we are and have. These gifts He returns to us purified and ennobled, to be used for His glory in blessing our fellow men.” {COL 328.2}

### **In the parable what was the distribution of the talents?**

**Matthew 25:15** And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

It's very personal notice that ALL was given at least one talent. We ALL are given talents to be spent for the kingdom of God! EVERYONE has a personal work for the kingdom of God.

### **What did the first two do with ALL the talents that were given to them?**

**Matthew 25**

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

They spent all of them in exchange of something of equal or greater value. They put them to work. They spent, sold, and gain more talents than what was originally given to them.

**Till, Seed, Sow, weed, & Harvest PRINCIPLE!**

They implemented the “till, seed, sow, weed, and harvest” in order to gain double amount of talents in which they originally given. **For example they could have taken ALL the talents to buy tools and seeds. They tilled and prepared the soil, sowed the seeds, weeded, and had an abundant harvest. They sold the produce from the harvest and was able to receive twice as much “talents” money that was originally given to them.**

**Spiritually what does the seed represent?**

Luke 8:11 **Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.**

**What is a key lesson that Jesus is teaching in the parable of the talents?**

Use ALL the talents that God has given you to spend, work, and sow the word of God in the hearts and minds of people for the glory of God! There will a harvest. But you have to be intentional. You have to make an effort and strive to continually to use ALL your talents for the glory of God. You must use your talents to implant the word of God in your heart in order to sow it in others.

“Talents used are talents multiplied. Success is not the result of chance or of destiny; it is the outworking of God's own providence, the reward of faith and discretion, of virtue and persevering effort. The Lord desires us to use every gift we have; and if we do this, we shall have greater gifts to use. He does not supernaturally endow us with the qualifications we lack; but while we use that which we have, He will work with us to increase and strengthen every faculty. By every wholehearted, earnest sacrifice for the Master's service our powers will increase.” COL 353

**When you sow God's word of truth in the mind of others it will not return void.**

Isaiah 55:11 **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**

**Heaven's Store**

Remember your talent is useless unless it is spent or given in exchange for something of equal or greater value in order to sow seeds of the gospel. Remember your talent is not the seed! Its only value come is when it is exchanged for seed, the Word, and sow it! Must spend your talent in heaven's approved store, the kingdom of God in order receive seeds of truth to produce a harvest for the kingdom of God!

**Remember the law of sowing and reaping. The more you sow the more and greater the harvest for the kingdom and glory of God!**

**When the man returned from his long journey, what did he tell the two who doubled what they originally received?**

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.” (see Matthew 25:21, 23)

“They will enter into the joy of the Lord as they see in His kingdom those who have been redeemed through their instrumentality. And they are privileged to participate in His work there, because they have gained a fitness for it by participation in His work here. **What we shall be in heaven is the reflection of what we are now in character and holy service.**” COL 361

**What did the one with one talent do with it?**

He buried it in the earth.

**What was the return of burying the talent under the earth?**

Nothing...

Lesson:

Remember your talent has no value unless it is exchanged for seed that can reap a harvest and increase your talents. Think about it. Can I bury a dollar and expect for it to grow tomatoes? No. I have to take that dollar and buy tomato seeds.

**What does burying a talent in the earth represent?**

Using the talents that belongs to God on earthly pursuits, worldliness, Hollywood, Netflix, greed and covetous is burying like your talent in the earth! Listen - **When you bury your talents in earthly things, pursuits there is NO return. It will always comes back with empty results!**

**What happened to the one talent that the man buried?** He lost it and give it to the one who double his five talents and made it ten.

If you don't use exchange your talent in the storehouse of heaven. You will lost it!

Don't expect to spend your talent in the store of worldliness, earth pursuit, and Hollywood, it will come back with empty results! Not only will your talent not double but it will be taken away from the one who gave it to you.

God does not approve of unspent talent... ALL MUST be used and spent for the glory of God for the spreading of the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

**What was the man's excuse for burying the one talent?**

That the man was a hard man that reap where he did not sow, etc...

**What was the reason for his excuses?**

He did not receive the Holy Spirit. He was only a professor truth. He like being around the truth, but did not live the truth. Remember it is the power of the Holy Spirit that gives you the POWER to spend your talent for the glory of God!

**What did the man tell the with one talent what he could of at least done with the one talent?**

*Matthew 25:27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.*

In other words, the person with one talent could have at least given his talent to someone else who would at least bought some seed to grow a harvest. He could have at least gotten some money (interest) from that even though it would not been doubled.

### **In the end what happened to the person who buried his talent in the earth?**

Matthew 25:30 "...cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Many who excuse themselves from Christian effort plead their inability for the work. But did God make them so incapable? No, never. This inability has been produced by their own inactivity and perpetuated by their deliberate choice. Already, in their own characters, they are realizing the result of the sentence, "Take the talent from him." The continual misuse of their talents will effectually quench for them the Holy Spirit, which is the only light. The sentence, "Cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness," sets Heaven's seal to the choice which they themselves have made for eternity." COL 365

#### Appeal

God reveals in the parable of the talent that this is personal work and that we all must be involved in it. Its not just about giving money to a ministry or church but also being personally involved in winning souls for Jesus Christ. We all must exchange our talents for the seed of the gospel to sow it to ALL the world.

Expand your knowledge in various subjects such as science, biology, history, prophecy, teaching, preaching, vocations, and gardening. From knowledge and experience gained God will direct and expand your ministry.

"Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." Luke 12:48. We shall individually be held responsible for doing one jot less than we have ability to do. The Lord measures with exactness every possibility for service. The unused capabilities are as much brought into account as are those that are improved. For all that we might become through the right use of our talents God holds us responsible. We shall be judged according to what we ought to have done, but did not accomplish because we did not use our powers to glorify God." COL 362

The are literally millions of buried unused talents in the grave. Spent your talents that God has given you NOW while you are still living. Evey talent spent is perfecting your character for the glory of God!