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# Ability+Opportunity=Responsibility and Reward

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Theme:

ABILITY + OPPORTUNITY = RESPONSIBILITY & REWARD

Matt. 25:14-30

*"Getting ready"*

Three thoughts of Matt. 25. Be "watching" 13, Doing 16, and Serving 40.

Heart of the chapter: Parable of Talents. Jas. 1:25.

Importance of this parable: J. 12:48. I Pet. 1:24-25.

I. PARABLE.

- a. Man went away on vacation or business trip.
- b. Assigned jobs to three servants by ability.
- c. Returned home in time and asked for an accounting.
- d. Two overjoyed with increase; one gave an excuse.  
Excuse: Attempted apology to cover up blame.  
"Poorest buy in world is an alabi."
- e. Rewarded each according to fidelity: 5-2-0.  
Ability, opportunity, responsibility, reward.

II. THE THIRD SERVANT DESPISED LITTLE THINGS, ONE TALENT.

- A. Bruce Barton: "Sometimes when I consider what tremendous consequences come from little things-- a chance word, a friendly hand on a shoulder, or a nicker tip to the newsboy---I am tempted to think there are no little things."
- B. Many little things make many big things.
  1. One snow flake insignificant--many make a glacier, can rush down at 300 mph.
  2. One raindrop insignificant--many make a raging sea.
  3. One acorn insignificant--grows to mighty oak.
- C. Faithful Christian's attitude:  
*ill.* "I am only one, but I am one  
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.  
And what I can do, by the grace of God I will do!"

Those who give the Lord dollars today were taught to give Him pennies when a child.

- D. Never underestimate the value of small things.
  1. Spiderweb the inspiration for suspension bridge.
  2. Falling apple the discovery of law of gravity.
  3. Singing teakettle, forerunner of steamboat.
  4. Shirt blowing on the line inspiration for the balloon and the dirigible.

III. HOW DOES THIS PARABLE APPLY TO US TODAY?

- A. Let's remember steadfastness of Word. Matt. 5:18.

STANDARD B &amp; P "NOISE"

Newton

Kohl-Hutton

STANDARD B &amp; P "NOISE"

PA

9-24-67  
WH 5-26-63

*summit*

- B. Man gone away is Christ gone to Heaven. Heb. 8:1.
- C. Servants with abilities are Christians.
- D. Our responsibility to teach gospel. Mk. 16:15-16.
- E. Our day of accounting is the Judgment. Matt. 25:31.
- F. Five talent Christians enter into joys of Lord.
- G. Two talent Christians enter into joys of Lord.
- H. One talent Christians who despise their talent—doomed.

*Carthage*

IV. ONE-TALENTS WE MUST NOT HIDE.

IV. ONE TALENTS WE MUST NOT HIDE.

- A. Sit and Learn. YOUTH: Sun. Morn. SUN.EVE. WED.  
ADULTS: Same opportunities, resp.  
Youth: Dallas Summer Program. Each Tues. night.
- B. Park Your Car Around Bldg. Impress skeptical.
- C. Teach children at home; Reg. B. S., VBS.  
Ill. Be the Best. Edgar A. Guest.
- D. Invest your LIFE in Christ for SOULS.

*Like Nigerian Illiterate*

INV: Can you do as well as an illeterate Nigerian blackman?  
Ill. Bryant. P. 208.

"Can you read? Then read John 3:16. Mk. 16:15-16."

Have you obeyed this? No. Then read: Matt. 11:28-30.

"12 natives baptized first week!"

**BE THE BEST!**

ABILITY OPPORTUNITY RESPONSIBILITY REWARD