

The Talents

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus. Our heart is with you and we are longing to see you to give you the good news that we receive from Him. Brother and sisters, we do not want you to be ignorant about the second coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. After He suffered and died on the cross for our sins, He raised from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to them who believe in Him. “So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.” (Hebrews 9:28)

To those who are waiting for Him, how I wish you are among them, the Lord Jesus Christ spoke about His second coming and describe it in a parable: *“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.” (Matthew 25:14-18)*

Jesus was speaking about the man who gave each of his servant talents before he went into a journey. The man represents God who came to earth to save us; Jesus Christ who lived with the people and showed them the right way of living. He died for us; He rose from the dead and ascended to heaven. Jesus, before He left to heaven he gave to everyone of us a number of talents.

Literally, a talent is equal to 75 pounds or 34 kilograms. In other word it is a not a small amount Jesus is giving to us. So even to the one whom God gave one talent he had also received much. The talent can be any kind of blessing that the Lord had given us. Talent is given by God to us to be used for good purposes; to do good work that the Lord has prepared in advance for us to do.

- 1) **The talent is the time that God give us:** How do we spend our time? Are we using our time effectively in doing good things – praying, reading the Bible, serving God by helping the poor and the needy, visiting the sick, the prisoner, the orphan, and those who have problems? Or, we use our time to watch cinema movies, listening to worldly music, watching pornography, and computer games; are we wasting our time with gossips, chatting, and doing nonsense? Time is precious matter God has placed in our hands and we have to use it affectively and fruitfully.
- 2) **The talent is our body abilities and skills:** God blesses everyone with a wide spectrum of physical abilities – strong body, intelligence, wisdom, good voice, ability to learn and gain education, art, music playing, computer skills, etc. – all these abilities and other skills are talents God has put in our hands to be used effectively for His own glory.
- 3) **The talent is the material resources we have:** God has given us jobs and salaries; our capitals, our treasures and possessions are all from Him. The material things that God has put in our hands are not only for us but

also for others; we are not the owner but only administrator and coordinator in distributing and sharing to others of what the Lord has given us.

- 4) **The talent is the Spiritual gift we receive:** These gifts are given by the Lord to every one who believes in Him. These gifts may be new to our lives like the ability to teach the Bible, to preach the word of God, the gift of healing, showing generosity, giving mercy and encouragement, etc. these gifts are unknown to us until we use them. They are added to us from God only after we believe in Jesus and receive the the Holy Spirit.

Many talents are given to everyone of us by God, each according to his ability and willingness to use. We cannot make an excuse for not using what God has given to us. Instead, we have to use properly what the Lord has given us because He is coming back and He will ask us what we have done with the talents He has entrusted to us.

“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘You entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’ His master replied, ‘well done, good and faithful servants. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’” the man with the two talents also came. “Master,’ he said, ‘You entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’ His master replied, ‘well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’” (Mathew 25:19-23)

“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the yes of Him to whom we must give account.” (Hebrews 4:13) God is watching everything we do. If we are faithful and diligent in our lives and service to Him, He will bless us and He will add more to us. His blessings to us will increase and He will give us more as He promised. *“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.” (Luke 16:10)* Not only that He will reward us here as we are living on earth, but as well as we have our reward coming from Him when He comes back again into the world, as He promised: *“Behold I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.” (Revelation 22:12)*

My dear and beloved: Every one of us wants to hear from Jesus when He comes back, *“Well done, good and faithful servants! You have been faithful with few things; I will put you in charge of many thins. Come and share your master’s happiness.” (Matthew 25:23)* There let us commit ourselves to serve God as we agree to pray from our hearts this prayer: *“Heavenly Father, I thank You for the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross to save me from sin and from death. Lord, I thank You for all the blessings that I receive from You, and for all the talents that you gave to me. Lord Jesus, teach me how to use effectively all what I have to bring You glory; help me to be diligent and faithful in my service to You while I wait for your coming. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen!”*