

Are We Using Our Talents As We Should Be?

Let me attempt to paint a picture. If you had ever seen a picture that I have drawn/painted, it will soon become obvious to you, that you are currently getting the better bargain!

In your mind, visualise a picture of Jesus sitting on the verandah of His Father's house. It is the 'cool of the evening', the time the Lord came into the Garden of Eden to see Adam and Eve when they had finished their day's chores, Genesis 3:8.

Jesus looked down, seeking His three servants who He had entrusted with some talents, and what did He see?

For the next part of the picture, we need to look at a teaching of Jesus. "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. 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. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them", Matthew 25:14-19.

If you can sit far enough away, yet could watch the people on this earth, whether it was two months ago, in three months time, or even twelve months time, you would be able to see God's servants behaving in the same manner.

So many sermons today speak only about the servant with one talent, and how he lost everything.

Would Jesus have said to the other two servants, "You did well, hope to see you in Heaven".

NO, He would not have said that. We know he did not say that. He praised them, and gave them a bonus equal to what had been given to them at the beginning.

He blessed them for using their original talents to effect.

Not only did they keep their extra talents, they were placed in a position of authority, when all they had set out to do was to please their Lord.

"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...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”, Matthew 25:21 & 23.

We have before us two people intent upon good works, and person without a desire to do anything. Yet so many preach on the man who lost the one and only talent he had.

Nevertheless, we can see very clearly that two out of the three men did what they were supposed to do. They went out and did something with their talents.

The bible says “Be not deceived; God is not mocked...”: Galatians 6:7. Any crop farmer is well aware that if he does not plant seeds, there will be no crops for the harvest.

Paul also makes it quite clear that we work for God, not to please other people. Likewise, we cannot use a talent to enable someone else to gain, “And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ”, Colossians 3:23–24.

Of those who have been given Spiritual talents, “For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ”, Ephesians 4:12, they have received them that they may strengthen others in the Body of Christ.