

## My Money

1) Matthew 25:14-18 NKJV

<sup>14</sup> "For *the kingdom of heaven* is like a man traveling to a far country, *who* called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. <sup>15</sup> And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. <sup>16</sup> Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup> And likewise he who *had received* two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.

a) What is a talent in today's currency?

The talent is a Greek coin worth 6000 drachmas. A drachma is a day's wage. In today's money it would be about \$360,000 U.S.

5 talents = \$1,800,000; 2 talents = \$720,000

b) How did the Lord distribute the money?

c) How do we know that the Lord didn't give them more than they could handle?

2) Matthew 25:19-23 NKJV

<sup>19</sup> After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' <sup>21</sup> His lord said to him, 'Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'<sup>22</sup> He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' <sup>23</sup> His lord said to him, 'Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

a) Where is the joy of the Lord found in these verses?

b) How do we become a ruler over many things?

3) Based on this equation from the previous lesson, how do we increase the Lord's goods?  $\text{My Money} = P + A \times S \times T$

My Money or wealth = my personal resources + applied ability x spiritual influence x technology

4) Matthew 25:24-30

<sup>24</sup> "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, *there* you have *what is yours*.' <sup>26</sup> "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. <sup>27</sup> So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. <sup>28</sup> Therefore take the talent from him, and give *it* to him who has ten talents.

<sup>29</sup> 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup> And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

a) How is the one-talent servant's perception of God limiting his ability to receive?

b) Was this servant afraid? What was the cause of his fear and how did it limit him?

c) Does God expect fruitfulness?

d) What in this parable is contrary to the world's financial system?