

Who Is a Faithful and Wise Servant?

Mat 24.42 “Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 47 Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ 49 and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, 50 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, 51 and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 25.1 Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ 7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ 12 But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ 13 Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming. 14 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. 15 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. 16 Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. 18 But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. 19 After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 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.’ 21 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.’ 22 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.’ 23 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.’ 24 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. 25 ‘And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ 26 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. 27 So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28 Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29 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. 30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

* Jesus warns the d’s there will be a challenge that will greatly test their faith, and that challenge is _____.

* What provides the challenge in all three parables?

* Put yourself in the place of a Jewish Christian in Judea ...

* Why were the d’s selling their property in Acts 4 & 5?

* Why did it look like the Christians were on the losing side—that God was blessing Christless Judaism, not the church?

* Why the book of Hebrews was written?

* When many Jewish professing Christians turned away, they tend to become ...

Luke 21.16 “You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death ... 19 By your endurance you will gain your lives.”

* What will mark the genuine disciple from the phony disciple?

* While it will be a significant delay of several decades, it is not a _____ delay.

* The punishment for the “wicked servant” in Mat 24.51 is _____ punishment.

* Noah's flood, which Jesus cites (Mt 24.37-39), involved _____ judgment.

* "Weeping and gnashing teeth" (24.51; 25.30) and "outer darkness" (25.30) are associated with ...

* Gnashing of teeth indicates not sadness, but _____.

Acts 7.54 When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 56 and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" 57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; 58 and they cast him out of the city and stoned him ...

* Jesus' coming on the Last Day will be a _____

return, unlike his coming in judgment on Jerusalem in 70AD.

Acts 1.9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, 11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

* What are 4 characteristics of a "faithful and wise servant"?

(1) A "faithful & wise servant"

_____ through _____ and _____.

(2) A faithful & wise servant serves Jesus'

_____,
the _____.

(3) A faithful & wise servant

_____ with Jesus' household.

(4) A faithful & wise servant does not

_____;
he is _____ with Jesus, and that is seen in

* Oil is associated with _____,

and one's light is associated with _____.

Mat 5.16 16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

* A good work is one that is the product of _____ working through _____ (Gal 5.6).

* The light one shines when the Master appears is the light of _____ working through _____ that one has _____.

* The parable of the talents has to do with investing in the Master's _____, which is the _____.

Mat 6.33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

* What do you invest? Whatever you have _____.

1Cor 4.7 For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?