

**Cornerstone**  
**Sunday AM, October 24, 2021**  
**Trading the Kingdom**

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I am so thankful for what Chris shared with us about “Gettin' Fruity Wit' It”. He sure has a great way with words, doesn't he?! That was a great series...thanks Chris!

We look outside and see rain clouds and maybe even get a weather report. They are talking lots of rain! In the same way, we know from what the Scripture says that we are to be ready to hear Jesus' voice and do what He commands, because, as Jesus said in **John 9:4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.** We know that our time to work is drawing to a close, because of what Jesus said. I want to prepare you to do His work while there is still time!

And so...we return to the Parable of the Talents....

**Luke 19:12-27** <sup>12</sup> **Therefore He said: “A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.** <sup>13</sup> **So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come.’**

Whether it's the business of money or the business of the Kingdom, we are to be about our Father's business until He comes! The amount of money delivered to the servants was one **mina** each; about 3 month's wages.

<sup>14</sup> **But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We will not have this man to reign over us.’**

Remember this...it comes up later!

<sup>15</sup> **“And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.**

<sup>16</sup> **Then came the first, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten minas.’** <sup>17</sup> **And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.’**

<sup>18</sup> **And the second came, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned five minas.’** <sup>19</sup> **Likewise he said to him, ‘You also be over five cities.’**

It was not the intent of the King to hand out money to fools! He gave His money to be invested, multiplied and \*used for His purposes!\*

But...that is not what each man did...

**<sup>20</sup> “Then another came, saying, ‘Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief.**

**<sup>21</sup> For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’**

**<sup>22</sup> And he said to him, ‘Out of your own mouth I will judge you, *you* wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. <sup>23</sup> Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?’**

**<sup>24</sup> “And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the mina from him, and give *it* to him who has ten minas.’ <sup>25</sup> (But they said to him, ‘Master, he has ten minas.’)**

**<sup>26</sup> ‘For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>27</sup> But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay *them* before me.’ ”**

There are at least three dynamics occurring simultaneously:

1. The acquisition of the kingdom by the ruler.
2. The handling of the entrusted money by the servants.
3. The rebellion of the subjects.

The three dynamics are recorded in these increments:

1. The Kingdom was acquired.
- 2a. The first two faithful servants were rewarded by increased money in their care...and increased responsibility and authority.
- 2b. The unfaithful servant was 'rewarded' by losing the small amount he had. The King (and the servants) learned the capacity for wise investment and the capacity for understanding Him through this stewardship assignment to ten men. It was a stewardship of trading...commerce used to test and try men in the furtherance of the King's dominion.

2c. There is a question here - 10 minas were given to 10 men, one mina each...where are the other seven servants and their accounting? Here are the possibilities:

- i. They were unimportant to the focus of the story.
- ii. They were just inconsequential.
- iii. They were the 3rd most successful through 9th most successful investors...warm feelings, nice "good job", but no awards!

3. The elimination of those citizens who refused to submit to the King's authority; rebels worthy of death...and receiving their just end.

**<sup>15</sup>“And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.”**

Following through on the instructions of God, and having enough confidence to attempt the task, resulted in rewards in status and riches to each of the servants who risked what they had to invest in the future.

Taking the seed money and neither investing nor spending it, resulting in the exact sum to be delivered back to the Lord...and that non-action resulted in a rebuke and total loss of even the seed money.

- **Trading is not a sure thing!**

Maybe the others tried and failed at trading; we'll never know!

One thing is for sure:

- **Only the risk takers and successful investors were given high esteem!!**

We must take what God gives us and put ourselves at risk...we cannot be content with mere having...

We were designed and intended to succeed in the furtherance of the Kingdom of God!!

He made **us** to be His traders, and risk takers.

...Because He took the greatest "risk" of all!!

We are meant to be like Him...taking the risks that He gives us.

(Taking no risks that He does NOT give us!)

- What would you be like if you lived your life like God has called you to live?
- What would you be like if you risked in every area that God has called you to risk?
- What would you be like if you followed God to every place He would lead you?

Who were those people who refused the King's leadership??

**They died**...they never became all that He had originally intended...so we (and they) will never know who those people might have been!!

In other words, you cannot know **yourself** apart from the "investment challenges" of God!!!

He has spoken to you!...He is speaking to you right now!

- What has He called You to **invest**?
- What has He given You to **risk**?

When are you going to take what God has given you "out of your handkerchief", and invest it in the Kingdom of God??

...or are you going to trade the Kingdom for what you have 'in your hand'?

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**John 9:4**

**Luke 19:12-27**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ = about 3 month's wages.

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Only the \_\_\_\_\_ and successful \_\_\_\_\_ were given high esteem!!

He made \_\_\_ to be His traders, and risk takers.

...Because He took the greatest "risk" of all!!

\_\_\_\_\_ ...they never became all that He had originally intended...

In other words, you cannot know \_\_\_\_\_ apart from the "investment challenges" of God!!!

- What has He called You to \_\_\_\_\_?
- What has He given You to \_\_\_\_\_?