

Working In The Kingdom of God

LK. 19:11-17

Introduction

- Jesus, the master teacher, and his use of parables. (Mk. 4:2,13; Matt. 13:10ff)
- One of less familiar parables → Parable of the Pounds in Lk. 19.
- Some clear points of reference:
 - The certain nobleman is Jesus Christ. (v-12)
 - Going into a far country corresponds to his ascension back to heaven after his resurrection. (v-12)
 - His servants are given duties and responsibilities. (v-13)
 - The return is the second coming and judgment – a day of reckoning and accounting. (v-15)
- Three great lessons:

I. The Kingdom of God

- Purpose for the parable. (Lk. 19:11)
- He went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom. (Lk. 19:12)
 - Jesus received the kingdom and began reigning as king when he ascended into heaven.
 - Acts 2:30-36 → sit on my right hand until I make thy foes thy footstool.
 - Heb. 1:13 → sit on my right hand until I make thy enemies thy footstool
 - I Cor. 15:25 → for he must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet. (cf. Zech. 6:13)
- He returned having received the kingdom. (Lk. 19:15; I Cor. 15:24)
 - Not to set up an earthly kingdom in Jerusalem.
 - The scriptures on the establishment of the kingdom: Dan. 2:44; Matt. 4:17; Mk. 9:1; Acts 8:12; Col. 1:13
 - Many need to seek the kingdom of God now. (Jn. 3:3-5)

II. Using Our Talents In The Kingdom of God

- Work to do in the kingdom of God. (I Cor. 15:58; Titus 2:14; v-13)
- Ability + Resources + Opportunity = Responsibility.
 - Talents differ. Should grow and develop, not excuse.
 - Each one is needed and necessary for the body to fully and properly function. (Rom. 12; Eph. 4:16; I Cor. 12:12-40)
 - What can we do?
 - Seek the lost. (Phil. 2:15-16; I Pet. 3:15); Restore the erring. (Js. 5:19-20; Gal. 6:1-2)
 - Pray for one another. (Js. 5:16); Edify, encourage, admonish, be present. (Heb. 10:24-25); Comfort, aid the needy, weak, afflicted. (I Thess. 5:14; Js. 1:27)
 - Serve in a physical capacity. (Acts 6)
 - What resources do we have?
 - Time. (24 hours/day; 168 hours/week – Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5; Jn. 9:4)
 - Degree of strength. (Phil. 4:13)
 - Gospel. (Rom. 1:16; I Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17)

III. Our Accountability To God

- Jesus is coming again, and we will judge us. (Acts 17:30-31; Jn. 12:48; Rom. 14:12; II Cor. 5:10; Heb. 5:8-9)

10/4/2009