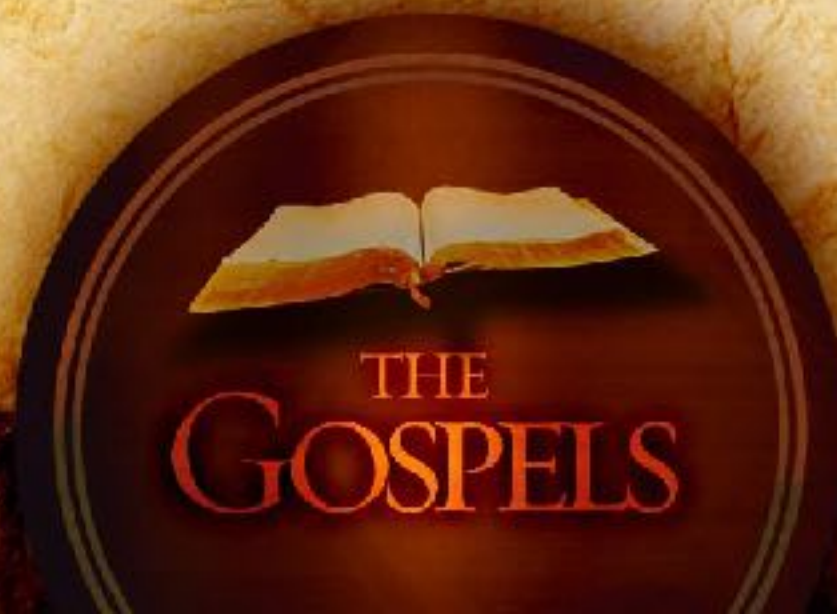




MATTHEW


Who is YOUR King?!?



The Lord's Investments



Matthew 25:14-30



Main Question

Main Question for today: Why should we invest spiritually?



“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

Matthew 25:14



To one he gave \$5,000,000, to another \$2,000,000, to another \$1,000,000, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

Matthew 25:15



He who had received the \$5,000,000
went at once and traded with them,
and he made \$5,000,000 more.

Matthew 25:16



So also he who had the \$2,000,000 made \$2,000,000 more. 18 But he who had received the \$1,000,000 went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

Matthew 25:17-18



Now after a long time the master of
those servants came and settled
accounts with them.

Matthew 25:19



And he who had received the
\$5,000,000 came forward, bringing
\$5,000,000 more, saying, 'Master,
you delivered to me \$5,000,000;
here, I have made \$5,000,000 more.'

Matthew 25:20



His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’

Matthew 25:21



And he also who had the 2,000,000 came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me \$2,000,000; here, I have made \$2,000,000 more.'

Matthew 25:22



His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’

Matthew 25:23



He also who had received the
\$1,000,000 came forward, saying,
‘Master, I knew you to be a hard
man, reaping where you did not sow,
and gathering where you scattered no
seed,

Matthew 25:24



so I was afraid, and I went and hid
your talent in the ground. Here, you
have what is yours.'

Matthew 25:25



But his master answered him,
'You wicked and slothful servant!
You knew that I reap where I have
not sown and gather where I scattered
no seed?

Matthew 25:26



Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.

Matthew 25:27



So take the \$1,000,000 from him and
give it to him who has the
\$10,000,000.

Matthew 25:28



29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Matthew 25:29



30 And cast the worthless servant
into the outer darkness. In that
place there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth.'

Matthew 25:30



The Lord's Investments

Why should we invest spiritually?

Simple reason: To not go to hell.



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.
The good servant acts immediately.



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.
The good servant acts immediately.

- This suggests a willing, eager attitude.



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.
The wicked servant fails to act.



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.

The wicked servant fails to act.

- Fear prevented action.



The Lord's Investments

Days of Noah 24:38-39

Unaware

Thief in night 24:43-44

Not always ready

Wicked servant 24:45-51

Returns too early

Virgins 25:1-13

Late/no last minute

Wicked servant 25:14-30

Not a timing issue

Sheep and Goats 25:31-46

Ungenerosity



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.
The wicked servant fails to act.

- Fear prevented action.
- Thinks his actions are good enough



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.
The wicked servant fails to act.

- Fear prevented action.
- Thinks his actions are good enough
- Calls him “Master” but never serves



The Lord's Investments

Everyone is given an opportunity to serve the Lord.
The wicked servant fails to act.

- Fear prevented action.
- Thinks his actions are good enough
- Calls him “Master” but never serves



The Lord's Investments

The wicked servant is:

- Scared to act



The Lord's Investments

The wicked servant is:

- Scared to act
- Confident he's done enough



The Lord's Investments

The wicked servant is:

- Scared to act
- Confident he's done enough
- Perhaps like a Pharisee



The Lord's Investments

The wicked servant is:

- Scared to act
- Confident he's done enough
- Perhaps like a Pharisee
- Neglecting the love of God and others



The Lord's Investments

The wicked servant is:

- Scared to act
- Confident he's done enough
- Perhaps like a Pharisee
- Neglecting the love of God and others
- Focused on doing the minimums



The Lord's Investments

We are like the wicked servant when:

- We fear failure and don't act



The Lord's Investments

We are like the wicked servant when:

- We fear failure and don't act
- We fall into “good enough” patterns.



The Lord's Investments

We are like the wicked servant when:

- We fear failure and don't act
- We fall into “good enough” patterns.
- Reveals an incomplete faith and trust



The Lord's Investments

How do we invest?



The Lord's Investments

How do we invest?

Opportunities are ways that God wants us to serve him.

Could be weaknesses rather than abilities.



But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:9



The Lord's Investments

How do we measure investment?

- Thoughts



Set your minds on things that are above, not on
things that are on earth.

Colossians 3:2



But seek first the kingdom of God and his
righteousness, and all these things will be added to
you.

Matthew 6:33



The Lord's Investments

How do we measure investment?

- Thoughts
- Time



making the best use of the time, because the days
are evil.

Ephesians 5:16



The Lord's Investments

How do we measure investment?

- Thoughts
- Time
- Resources



As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

1 Timothy 6:17-19



The Lord's Investments

What if we are failing?

If you feel like a failure, remember that God's work won't fail.



And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6



The Lord's Investments

So our next step is to take inventory of our spiritual investments, and make an investment plan.

- Where am I scared to fail?
- Where do I (incorrectly) think I'm good enough?

Then, we've got to start doing the plan.



MATTHEW

Who is YOUR King?!?

