



***“Don’t Waste Your Life”***

***Luke 19:11-27***

Nov. 19, 2023

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13 "And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas and said to them, 'Do business with this until I come back.'

14 "But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.'

15 "When he returned, after receiving the kingdom, he ordered that these slaves, to whom he had given the money, be called to him so that he might know what business they had done.

16 "The first appeared, saying, 'Master, your mina has made ten minas more.'

17 "And he said to him, 'Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, you are to be in authority over ten cities.'

18 "The second came, saying, 'Your mina, master, has made five minas.'

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- Jesus has their attention.
- He is on His way between Jericho and Jerusalem.
- Passover would bring in up to 2,000,000 Jews to Jerusalem.
- The Jews are anticipating something happening.
- They have put it all together – miracles, healings, casting out demons, claiming to be the Messiah. They thought they read all of the signs correctly and therefore what a great time for Jesus to set up the kingdom.
- But last week Jesus said why He came – “to seek and to save the lost.”
- His entire ministry was about salvation, saving the lost, bring the internal kingdom to the hearts of man.
- This is not the time He will set up the kingdom.

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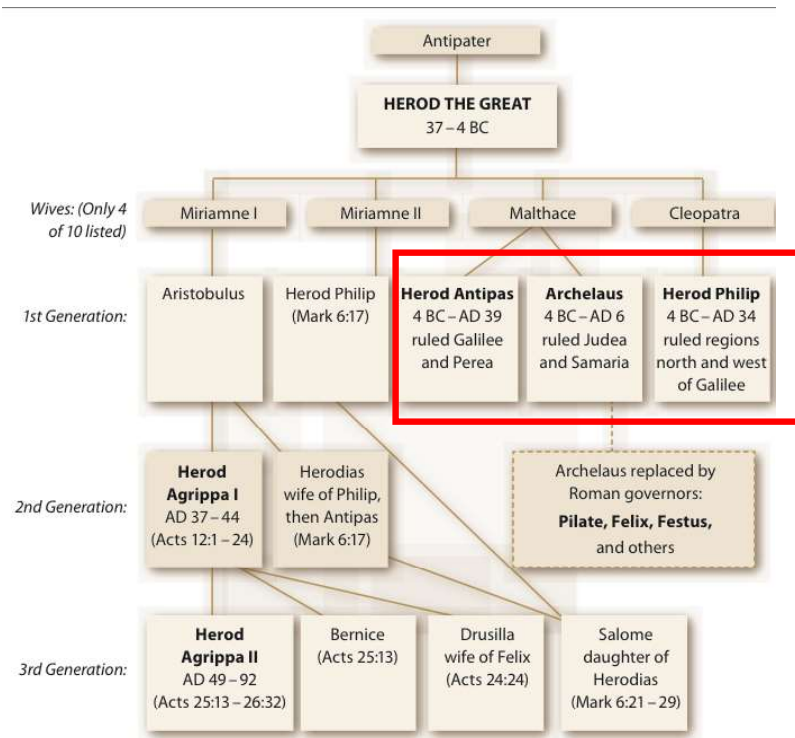
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- So Jesus tells them a parable which they could relate to.
- They had first hand knowledge of what this parable was about.
- It starts with the Herodian dynasty . . .



**12 So He said, "A nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return.**

- In 40 BC Herod goes to Rome to secure the right to rule under the Caesar in Israel. He is granted that right.
- Herod dies in 4 BC.
- His will states that the kingdom would be divided into 3 parts and given to his 3 sons.
- Archelaus was given Judea and Samaria.
- Archelaus built a palace in Jericho.
- When the time had come, Archelaus traveled to Rome to receive his official right from the Caesar to rule over Judea and Samaria.
- He received that right.
- But when going to Rome there were protestors who followed him all the way to Rome who said, "We do not want Archelaus to rule over us." They hated him.
- So that brings us to the parable. Nobleman is Archelaus. He is going to a distant country to receive his kingdom.
- So there is going to be a delay before he returns.
- Jesus is the nobleman here. He is going away to receive back His kingdom from the Father. He will return.
- Jesus is relating this to the Jews who thought this was the time for the external, physical, kingdom to be established, but it was not.

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**13 "And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas and said to them, 'Do business with this until I come back.'**

- 10 slaves – each one given a mina.

drachma = one day's wages.

100 drachmas = one mina.

60 minas = one talent.

Talent = 3,000 Shekels

Mina = 50 Shekels.

mina = 100 days' wages, or about three months pay.

Today - \$18,000. A significant amount of money.

- **Note:** all slaves start with the exact equal amount.

**"Do business . . ."** – don't focus on my return, rather focus on the return of your investment. Stay busy, work hard, be wise, use all of your resources.

- The nobleman doesn't need the money. This is for the servants.
- They will show their love, and dedication to the nobleman by how they invest their mina.

**14 "But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.'**

- Here is the rebellion. Here are those who were created by God who will not bow the knee to Him. They hate him.
- They don't want an authority over their lives. That's why we have people who have invented evolution.
- Man does not want to be responsible or accountable to a higher authority.

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20 *"Another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I kept put away in a handkerchief;*

21 *for I was afraid of you, because you are an exacting man; you take up what you did not lay down and reap what you did not sow.'*

22 "He said to him, 'By your own words I will judge you, you worthless slave. Did you know that I am an exacting man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow?

23 'Then why did you not put my money in the bank, and having come, I would have collected it with interest?'

24 "Then he said to the bystanders, 'Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.'

25 "And they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas already.'

26 "I tell you that to everyone who has, more shall be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.

27 "But these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them in my presence."

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- Now comes accountability. He returns and the first thing he does is call the slaves and find out how they did.
- Like a college course on investing.
- 3 are called forward to give a report.
- Slave #1: 10 minas more. He gets 10 cities.
- Slave #2: 5 minas more. He gets 5 cities.
- Some will accomplish more than others.
- They showed their love for their master, and trustworthiness by the return on their investment.
- **Note:** You are not given rest or retirement as a reward. You are given more responsibility, more work.

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21 *for I was afraid of you, because you are an exacting man; you take up what you did not lay down and reap what you did not sow.'*

"Another" – *ετερος* – another of a different kind. *αλλος* – another of the same kind. This guy is a different kind of person.

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> servant wraps it up in a handkerchief. Why?
  1. Afraid of nobleman.
  2. Because nobleman was an exacting man. Austere. Harsh, strict, unfair, not gracious.
  3. He believed the nobleman was a thief. He took what was not rightfully his.
- So, he is saying, it is the nobleman's fault for being a tough guy and that is why he did not invest.
- There is no relationship here, no love for the nobleman, no desire to honor the nobleman, no desire to serve the nobleman.
- The nobleman is seen as a cold, legalistic, hard-nosed person.



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## Summary

5 reasons this 3<sup>rd</sup> slave is an unbeliever:

1. ετερος - means another of a different kind.
2. He was afraid of the master. No relationship.
3. He calls his master a severe, strict, exacting, austere man.
4. He accuses his master of being a thief.
5. The master calls him a wicked slave.

22 "He said to him, 'By your own words I will judge you, you worthless slave. Did you know that I am an exacting man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow?'

23 'Then why did you not put my money in the bank, and having come, I would have collected it with interest?'

- "You think I'm a harsh man, then I will judge you like a harsh man."

"worthless" – πονηρος – evil, wicked. Used 72 times in N.T.

- No logic here. If the nobleman is "exacting" then the mina should have been put in the bank.
- Instead you roll it up in a handkerchief.
- There was no attempt to invest. Couldn't care less.

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- The nobleman is only taking back what is his. He is not taking from the poor and giving it to the rich. It was his money to start with.
- He is an investor seeking the most return.
- That is the way grace is . . . it keeps giving you more.

### **Eph 1:7-8**

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

8 which He lavished on us.

- A fourth group are his enemies. They face eternal condemnation and judgment.

### **Application**

1. We do not know when Christ will return. We are to "do business" until He comes. Don't waste your life.
2. Though our individual resources and spiritual gifts differ from believer to believer, we all have the same amount of time.  
The dying words of Queen Elizabeth I were these: "**All my possessions for a moment of time.**"
3. Though all believers have opportunity to invest in the kingdom, there will not be equal results.
4. The Lord Jesus will give out rewards in eternity for faithful use of the opportunities each believer has been afforded.
5. Failure to use what we have been given, will result in us losing what we have been given.
6. We are determining right now, in time, what we will be doing for all eternity.
7. We determine the size of the container (capacity to serve) that we will bring to the bema seat. God will fill whatever container we bring.
8. Therefore we will spend eternity using our capacity to serve, to rule, and to reign in the kingdom of God.

"In the Christian life we do not stand still. We use our gifts and make progress or we lose what we have."

- Henry Morris