

Talents, Caprinae and Trustworthiness

Matthew 25:14-46

12/8/13

The Lesson of the talents

Matthew 25:14 "For *it is* just like a man *about* to go on a journey, who called his own slaves, and entrusted his possessions to them.

¹⁵ "And to one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.

¹⁶ "Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents.

¹⁷ "In the same manner the one who *had received* the two *talents* gained two more.

¹⁸ "But he who received the one *talent* went away and dug in the ground, and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

²⁰ "And the one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me; see, I have gained five more talents.'

²¹ "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things, enter into the joy of your master.'

²² "The one also who *had received* the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted to me two talents; see, I have gained two more talents.'

²³ "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

²⁴ "And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no *seed*.'

²⁵ 'And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground; see, you have what is yours.'

²⁶ "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I scattered no *seed*.'

²⁷ 'Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest.'

²⁸ 'Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

²⁹ "For to everyone who has shall *more* be given, and he shall have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.

³⁰ "And cast out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

1 Corinthians 3:10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building upon it. But let each man be careful how he builds upon it.

¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

¹³ each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is *to be* revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

¹⁴ If any man's work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward.

¹⁵ If any man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.

² And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,

³ and threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he should not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.

⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

⁷ And when the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison,

⁸ and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore.

⁹ And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

¹⁰ And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

¹¹ And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

¹² And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds.

¹⁴ And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire

The Lesson of the sheep and goats (*Caprinae*)

³¹ "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

³² "And all the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

³³ and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

³⁵ 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;

³⁶ naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.'

³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You drink?

³⁸ 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You?

³⁹ 'And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

⁴⁰ "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, *even the least of them*, you did it to Me.'

⁴¹ "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;

⁴² for I was hungry, and you gave Me *nothing* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink;

⁴³ I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.'

⁴⁴ "Then they themselves also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?'

⁴⁵ "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'

⁴⁶ "And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

James 2:8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law, according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin *and* are convicted by the law as transgressors.

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.

¹¹ For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not commit murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

¹² So speak and so act, as those who are to be judged by *the* law of liberty.

¹³ For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What use is it, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that faith save him?

¹⁵ If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,

¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that?

¹⁷ Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.

¹⁸ But someone may *well* say, "You have faith, and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

¹⁹ You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

²⁰ But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?

²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar?

²² You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected;

²³ and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God.

²⁴ You see that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone.

²⁵ And in the same way was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works, when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

²⁶ For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

All Scripture is from the NASV