

## **Today's Reading – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### The Parable of the Talents Matthew 25:14-30

- Jesus tells this parable as an example of what the Kingdom of Heaven is like.
- Verse 14 tells us a man goes on a journey and entrusting his property to his servants. To each of the 3 servants he gave talents – the first had 5, the second had 2 and the third had 1. This story is a picture of Jesus our Master , who came to Earth and ascended to heaven, telling us he would return.
- The master in the parable left his servant entrusted with his property  
We are those servants – we have been entrusted with all that he has left behind.
- These servants were given talents, each had different amounts, but each was given according to his ability. We, as servant of the Lord have different talents.
- And the important thing is what we do with it.
- What has God entrusted us with?
  - To love one another
  - to tell of the love of the Father with those we meet,
  - to go and make disciples,
  - to care for the sick
  - to feed the hungry
  - to forgive those who hurt us
  - to love our enemies
  - to care for creation.
- And in order to be able to do that, God has given us talents.
- Talents can be seen here as our time, our money, our spiritual gifts – all that we are and have really – as this is all God given. Everyone has something!
- A wise and faithful servant will be faithful with what the master has entrusted – he will take care of what he's been given because he knows the master will eventually return.
- This man in the parable went on a long journey – when someone goes away for a very long time, it can be easy to forget about them.
- Jesus has left us faithful servants and entrusted us with this good news of a Saviour who came
- Jesus did not come and ask these servants what they had done as a group – he asked what they had done individually as servants.

- God will not ask you what your church did – he will ask you what you did yourself.”  
(Spurgeon)
- The first two servants– set to work straight away
- The third servant –hid the talents.
- And for us, Jesus has been gone from the earth for ages – it would be easy for us to think, he won’t be coming back.
- The long delay would tempt the servants to think that they would *never* give an account for their management, yet they most certainly did.
- We are the servants of the Lord and knowing our master will inspire us, to use what He has given us and make it count.
- There is a scripture in Matthew 6 which talks of prayer and encourages us to go into a room and close the door and pray –there has never been a better time to do that.
- How can we show the love of God in lockdown? We can make a telephone call to someone who needs it, we can send a card, we can bake a cake and leave it on the doorstep, we can pray for those we know.
- Each of us has something to contribute –We know of an eternal hope, a hope that carries us through the storms of life, Jesus Christ.