

FOCUS ON OUR FINANCES

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SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH

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Matthew 25:14-30

- 14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.
- 15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.
- 16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

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17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

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²⁰ And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

²¹ His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

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²² He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

²³ His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

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24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

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²⁶ His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

²⁷ Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

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28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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▶ God is our Source.

▶ The power, provision and point of origination.

Genesis 22:14

¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

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II Chronicles 16:19

⁹ Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Psalm 84:11

¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Psalm 68:19

¹⁹ Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

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▶ We are His Resource.

- ▶ Resource is a supply of assets (materials, human capital, intellectual capital) that can be drawn on by a person or entity to function effectively.

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► Seven Principles from Matthew 25:14-30

- 1) The Principle of Ownership – Everything I have belongs to God, v. 14 (He “entrusted” His wealth).
- 2) The Principle of Allocation, v. 15 – God has given us all talents, resources and value.
- 3) The Principle of Accountability – God expects me to use what I’ve been given wisely, v. 19.

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- 4) The Principle of Utilization – It is wrong to bury what God gave me or to squander it, vs. 18, 26.
- 5) The Principle of Motivation – Fear keeps me from being a good steward and developing my resources, v.25.
- 6) The Principle of Application – If I don't use it, I lose it, v28.
- 7) The Principle of Compensation – If I use my resources and talents wisely, God will reward me, vs. 21, 23.