

The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 147

Passion Week ~ Tuesday (continued)

In our last post, we continued to examine the final days of **Yeshua's** life and ministry. In this post, we explore some more of **Yeshua's** parables mid-day with His **talmidim**. Yes, we are still on Tuesday, BUT...

Discourse on Future Events ~ Part 5

The Parable of the Talents

Like the illustration in Mattityahu 24:45–51, this parable focuses on responsibility in the master's absence.

¹⁴ "For it will be like a man about to leave home for awhile, who entrusted his possessions to his servants. ¹⁵ To one, he gave five talents (the approximate dollar equivalents would be in six or seven figures.); to another, two talents; and to another, one talent—to each according to his ability. Then he left. ¹⁶ The one who had received five talents immediately went out, invested it, and earned another five. ¹⁷ Similarly, the one given two earned another two. ¹⁸ But the one given one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.

The man on the long journey symbolizes **Yeshua** and the lengthy delay preceding His second coming. Rather than making money and gaining a profit, the **servant** given the one talent merely preserved what the master entrusted to him (compare 13:44; Luke 19:20).

¹⁹ "After a long time, the master of those servants returned to settle accounts with them. ²⁰ The one who had received five talents came forward, bringing the other five, and said, 'Sir, you gave me five talents; here, I have made five more.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Excellent! You are a good and trustworthy servant. You have been faithful with a small amount, so I will put you in charge of a large amount. Come and join in your master's happiness!' ²² Also, the one who had received two came forward and said, 'Sir, you gave me two talents; here, I have made two more.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Excellent! you are a good and trustworthy servant. You have been faithful with a small amount, so I will put you in charge of a large amount. Come and join in your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Now the one who had received one talent came forward and said, 'I knew you were a hard man. You harvest where you didn't plant and gather where you didn't sow seed.

Rather than present his master with the results of his assignment (compare vv. 20, 22), this servant tries to justify his inaction.

²⁵ I was afraid, so I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here! Take what belongs to you!' ²⁶ 'You wicked, lazy servant!' said his master, 'So you knew, did you, that I harvest where I haven't planted? and that I gather where I didn't sow seed? ²⁷ Then you should have deposited my money with the bankers so that when I returned, I would at least have gotten back interest with my capital! ²⁸ Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten. ²⁹ For everyone who has something will be given more so that he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has nothing, even what he does have will be taken away.

Faithfulness results in blessing and reward (see Mattityahu 13:12; Proverbs 9:9). This statement's inverse is also true.

30 As for this worthless servant, throw him out in the dark, where people will wail and grind their teeth!¹

The faithful ***servants*** (true **talmidim**) used their gifts and resources responsibly and were generously rewarded. The evil, lazy servant (a false **talmidim**) failed to use the resources and was severely punished. He attempted to excuse his failure by assaulting the character of his master (v. 24). However, the master's treatment of the other servants demonstrates that the wicked servant's slander was unfair.

In our next, we continue to follow **Yeshua into Yerushalayim for His Crucifixion** by the end of the week.

¹ Mattityahu 25:14–30.