

THE KINGS ROYAL SUBJECTS

"Incentives for Service"

Luke 19:11-26

INTRODUCTION:

1. Rewards are important and provide us with the motivation to do the best we can.
 - a) The hope is that great work will bring with it a nice reward.
2. **LISTEN UP:** God may not have a yearly **"Performance Evaluation"**
 - a) However, **John 15:1-6** reveals that God is interested in GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRODUCTION of FRUIT in our lives.
3. **Psalm 24:1**
 - a) The Bible is clear that God cares what happens to His creation.
 - 1) AND those He loves.

I. YOU GOT TO GIVE TO GET

A. THERE'S AN INVESTMENT

1. Why do we invest financially.
 - a) To grow our money.
2. There is a REWARD/RETURN for all that we do for our KING and His Kingdom.
 - a) The decisions we make as believers ARE OUR INVESTMENT.
 - 1) Not only for PRESENT REWARDS, but also for ETERNAL REWARDS.
3. **Mark 10:17-31**
 - a) **"The Rich Young Ruler."**
4. This successful leader told Jesus that he was a Good Man.
 - a) **Vs 17-20**
5. This man's own assessment of himself was that he had kept the Law from his youth up.
 - a) **Vs 18**
6. BUT Jesus challenged his dedication.
 - a) **Vs 20-21**

7. **NOW WATCH** the young man's response.

a) **Vs 22**

1) **WOW!!!** He could not believe the **LEVEL OF COMMITMENT** Jesus asked him to demonstrate.

8. The disciples witnessed this whole conversation and they had a question.

a) **Vs 28**

1) Peter had a prosperous fishing business.

9. Matthew left his very ulcerative tax collecting business to follow Jesus.

a) **Matthew 9:9**

10. Peter a businessman wanted to know what they would get out of following Jesus.

a) Jesus told the rich young ruler to sell everything and give it to the poor.

1) ***"and he would have treasure in Heaven."***

B. EXPECT A RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT

1. **Mark 10:29-31**

2. **WOW!!!** Jesus heard the words of Peter, and knew the hearts of the disciples, who probably sat there wondering if their sacrificial decision had been so wise after all.

3. **Luke 18:28-30**

4. These were truly Kingdom Disciples who had not compromised God's rule over every area of their lives.

5. **VERY GOOD:** A Disciple of Christ is one who takes part in progressively learning to bring his or her entire life under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

a) And Jesus says there's a reward you can expect to receive.

b) **Mark 10:29-30**

6. **LISTEN UP:** Because of not knowing when, too many people are not willing to pay the cost of discipleship.

a) **Living as a disciple of Christ means living entirely by faith.**

b) **AND FAITH IS BELIEVING JESUS TELLS THE TRUTH.**

II. THE DAY OF EVALUATION

- **Luke 19:11-12** (A passage we have looked at)

A. WHEN JESUS RETURNS

1. Vs 11

a) *"They supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately."*

2. Vs 12

a) *"He said therefore"*

3. Vs 12

a) *"to receive a kingdom for himself"*

4. The **ISSUE** will be *"How did my Kingdom benefit by what I provided you?"*

5. *Here's the ISSUE that we must give an account to Jesus for.*

a) How did the King's business prosper under my management.

b) Is the King and His Kingdom better off?

c) Was the Kings agenda furthered.

6. *Matthew 28:19-20*

7. *1 Corinthians 3:10-15*

B. TESTED BY FIRE

1. That's why our life choices are so important.

a) Because our devotion and works will be tested one day.

1) Tested by fire.

2. **ONE DAY JESUS WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE - not for Salvation, but for REWARDS.**

3. *2 Corinthians 5:10-11a*

4. On that day of Evaluation, the fire of Christ Himself will test the quality of each man's work.

a) **1 Corinthians 3:13**

1) How we used our TIME for King Jesus

2) How we used our TALENTS for King Jesus

3) How we used our TREASURES treasure for King Jesus

b) Did we use what God gave us to produce quality work.

5. Or is King Jesus getting just the leftovers?

III. TRUTH ABOUT THE AMOUNT

- **Luke 19:13-15, 16-24**
 - a) A minas is 3 months wages.

A. DISCIPLE #1

1. **Vs 16**
 - a) That's 1000%
2. **His REWARD?**
 - a) **Vs 17a**
 - b) How awesome to hear from Jesus "Well done"
 - c) **AND MADE** to rule over 10 real cities.
 - d) **LUS, HE GOT A BONUS - Vs 24**

B. DISCIPLE #2

1. **Vs 18-19**
2. **No public recognition, no well done**, however HE got his 5 cities.
 - a) Why? Because he was only half faithful.

C. DISCIPLE #3

1. **Vs 20-21**
2. This man basically said, "Master, I just want you to know I didn't lose any of the Time. Treasures or Talents you gave me, because I hid them in my mattress."
 - a) **Why?** "Because you are a hard man and well I didn't trust you."
 - 1) **"I didn't even think you were gonna come back."**
3. **Vs 22-23**
 - a) This disciple didn't even get an E for effort.

CONCLUSION:

1. I'm so afraid there are Christians who can talk a good game.
 - a) About the Grace and Goodness of God who can praise God for taking them from nowhere to somewhere, but don't give Him a decent return on His investment.
2. **Vs 24-26**