

A Gracious God Rewards His Children

December 31, 2023

1. What the servants have used to gain their rewards has been given to them.

Each of the servants was entrusted with what didn't belong to them.

1 Corinthians 4:7 - "What do you have that you did not receive? If then, you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?"

2. The master, on his return, was not obligated to reward the two servants who invested wisely what had been entrusted to them.

Luke 17:10 - "So you, also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

3. The master equips his servants differently and rewards them differently on his return.

The master didn't chide the second servant for making only two talents, while the first servant made five. Each of the servants was rewarded for their faithfulness in investing what had been entrusted to them.

4. The two servants with differing rewards both enter into the joy of their master.

The one servant who received more rewards isn't proud, nor the one who received less isn't envious.

As we are about to enter a new year, what the Bible has to say about rewards should be both a challenge for us to press on and a great encouragement to what lies ahead.

1. The very abilities, personalities, and opportunities each of us has been given are gifts of God's grace. As we use these things

to serve the Lord, he will reward us. What a kind and gracious God we have!

2. When we stand before the Lord at the end of the age, he is not obligated to reward us. None of us will earn our rewards. We will simply receive them as a gift of God's grace.
3. We will receive differing rewards. God will not compare us to others. He will simply reward us according to our faithful stewarding of what He has given us. No good, that we will ever do, even though it may be unnoticed or unappreciated, will ever go unrewarded by an omniscient heavenly Father.
4. In the new heavens and the new earth, we will enter into the joy of our Master. We will be perfectly happy and satisfied. We will truly rejoice with those who receive more rewards than we do and we will not feel superior to those who receive fewer rewards.