



# SUNDAY EVENING

## AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

**Title:** The Parable of the Investments!

**Passage:** Luke 19:11-26

**Speaker:** Pastor Dan Preston

**Introduction:** Perhaps Jesus had been discussing with His disciples what had happened at the house of Zacchaeus. They heard Him say to Zacchaeus, "This day is salvation come to this house." They also heard Jesus say, "The Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost." As Jesus draws near to Jerusalem, the expectation rises that He will establish the kingdom immediately. So, He tells the parable now to correct the mistaken idea of the kingdom's immediate appearance. Also, Jesus wanted them to know what they were to do while the king was gone and before He came back.

### I. The Master Has Given Us a Job (Verses 12-13)

The comparison of the two parables helps us understand that although we do have different gifts and abilities, God has given us some things that we have all been given equally.

#### 1. There is time

Each of us has the same amount of time each day and it is what we do with it that matters. How much of your time do you spend investing in eternal things?

#### 2. There is the Gospel

We have all received the same Gospel, and Jesus wants us to put it to work in the world.



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## **II. The Master Will Hold Us Accountable (Verses 16-19)**

One day, the King will return with full authority over His royal kingdom. When He returns, one of the first things He will want to know is which servants He can trust to serve Him well based on their performance in His absence.

*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” (2 Corinthians 5:10)*

*“Our title to heaven is all of grace. Our degree of rewards in heaven will be proportioned to our works.” - J.C. Ryle*

King Jesus is watching to see whether we can be trusted. What we do with our time and money and the gospel has eternal significance.

*“A little thing is just a little thing, but faithfulness in a little thing is a great thing.” - Hudson Taylor*

## **III. Our Relationship to the Master Will Be Revealed by What We Do or Don't Do (Verses 18-20)**

There are three attitudes toward the king exemplified:

1. There were those who did not want Him to be King.

*“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9-11)*

Our King came once as the Lamb of God, but He is coming back and when He comes it will be as King of Kings and Lord of Lords! And when He does, He will put His enemies under His feet.



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2. There were those who received Him gladly.

Each faithful servant received a position of authority directly proportionate to their faithfulness. Both had worked and invested and were glad to report of what they had accomplished.

When you have done the work that God has called you to do you can look forward to His coming.

3. There are those who will be sorry for not using what they have been given.

*"Nothing twists and deforms the soul more than a low or unworthy conception of God." - A. W. Tozer*

*"Our churches are full of those guilty of this sin. They seem to have no desire to serve the Savior." - Herbert Lockyer*

What a sad place to be standing before the King empty-handed and to see others with rewards that could have been yours.

**Conclusion:** Which attitude characterizes your life? Do you not want Him to be your King or tell you how to live your life? Do you gladly recognize Jesus as the Lord of your life, and you look forward to hearing Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."? Or when the day of reckoning comes, will you stand with nothing and watch others receive rewards you could have enjoyed yourself? Whatever you choose, just know that God is a righteous Judge and will judge accordingly.

