

"Investing Wisely, Part I"
Matt 25:14-30

Matt 25:14-30 *"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

There are seven principles that will help me invest wisely.

The first four are:

- I. Recognition - God owns it all.

Ps 24:1 (KJV) *The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof;*

Matt 25:14 *"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.*

Luke 16:2 *...? Give an account of your stewardship,'*

- II. Allocation - God has given me some unique talents.

Matt 25:14-15 *"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.*

Rom 12:6 *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, ...;*

III. Dedication - God expects me to use my talents.

Matt 25:16-19 *Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.*

Rom 14:12 *So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.*

Matt 25:19 *After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.*

I Cor 4:2 *Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.*

Lam 3:22-23 *Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.*

IV. Realization - God is faithful to me.

A. God is faithful when I am trapped by sin.

Rom 6:17 *But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.*

B. God is faithful when I am touched by sin.

I Cor 1:8-9 *who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

C. God is faithful when I am tempted by sin.

I Cor 10:13 *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

D. God is faithful when I am tangled by sin.

I John 1:8 *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

Pro 20:6 *Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man?*

I should ask myself this question, "Can the Lord depend on me?"