THE WICKED SERVANT

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

TOPIC;

THE WICKED SERVANT

Key Text: Matthew 25:14

Teacher: Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Prayer

Most righteous King we adore You, we lift Your name above every other for You remain God, we say that as we study at Your feet today, that You shall transform our lives and make our destinies productive to Your kingdom in Jesus Christ name, Amen.

Study

Turn your Bibles with me to the book of **Matthew 25:14-30**

Matthew 25.14 - 30 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods**. 15** And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another onoe; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. **16** Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. **17** And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. **18** But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. **19** After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. **20** And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more**. 21** His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. **22** He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. **23** His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy

of thy lord. **24** Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: **25** And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. **26** His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: **27** Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. **28** Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. **29** For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. **30** And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

This is one of the parables that talks about The kingdom of God and the duties of those who want to not only make heaven but also to be rewarded. Many of us sometimes said all we want is to make heaven even if it is to go and be sweeping heaven's gates, this will say in desperation to making heaven. Heaven is not a dirty place, not a place that can be dirty nor will it ever be dirty so sweepers are not needed there, but it is of scriptural truth that there are rewards that will be given to God's faithful ones even after making it to heaven. The more I study the scriptures and gain knowledge the more understanding I get that it is not only to make heaven that matters but also to be regarded as a faithful servant. Some would be saved as passing through fire even as their works will be burned. **1 Corinthians 3:15 KJV** If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. One cannot compare them with those whose works are refined, so we should aim at working faithfully for and with The Lord so that we would be rewarded at the end even as we make heaven**. 1 Corinthians 3:14 KJV** If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. This is what The Lord illustrated in this portion of the scriptures, saying, the Kingdom of heaven is like a Man traveling to a far country and delivered his goods into the hands of his servants giving five talents to the first, two to the second and one to the third according to the ability of each. The goods the Master distributed as talents can be any of the supernatural abilities and physical abilities given by God which is embedded in us as humans. It can be gifts, talents and skills.

Just the way these are distributed among the servants of this master that is the same way it has been distributed among the children of God and we are all expected to trade with everything that has been embedded in us to make profits to the glory of our master, Jesus Christ. Something important is to be noted about the scale of measure their master used, it was according to their abilities. This implies that, for every talent, gift, and skill you have, they have been given to you according to your ability. This means that the grace (enabling power) to make judicious use of them has already been supplied to you. A man must then put this into use and trade to make profit for the Master. The servant that was given one talent was also given according to his own ability, assuming he was given more than that one he would not have been able to make profit with it, looking at how unprofitable he was with the one given to him shows that it would have been an error on the part of his master to give him more than that one. Just like this servant, we have many people in the body of Christ whose ability are lesser and The Lord Jesus Christ knows this so He has given gifts to all men **Ephesians 4:8 KJV** Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Through His Holy Spirit accordingly, but some do not recognise this but feel that The Lord is partial. **Matthew 25:16-18 KJV** Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. **[17]** And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. **[18]** But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. These verses makes us to understand how and what all the servants did to the goods committed into their hands. The first two traded with it and the last buried it. In the first instance we do not know why the last buried the talents given to him, one must have thought he does not need it or it's too much for him but it was not so because it was given according to his ability.

Others traded and multiplied their talents, that is, they bore fruits, they yielded more profit for the benefit of their master but the last did not even trade not to talk of making profit. He did not even put his talent into use at all. Just the same way many people in the church have buried their talents, gifts, skills etc. They are aware of these potentials in them but they have decided not to make use of them thereby burying these potentials. **Matthew 25:19 KJV** After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. Their master came to settle account with them. A day is coming when our Master The Lord Jesus Christ will

also come to settle accounts with everyone of us and we must give account of how we have made use of all He committed into our hands, that is, if we were profitable or we buried it. Some are unconscious of this truth and they think that day will not come, but their actions and beliefs would not change the truth of God's word into a lie. He has appointed a day when everyone will give account of himself to Him. **Romans 14:12 KJV** So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. **Matthew 25:20-23 KJV** And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. **[21]** His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. **[22]** He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. **[23]** His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. We can see in these verses of the scriptures that the first two servants came to the master to give report, same way even one must give account of himself to God one day, so they gave account of what he gave them. And the master was glad and commended their efforts calling them good and faithful servants.

More things are to be committed into their hands in the kingdom of their Lord because they were faithful in the little things given to them, this is accompanied with the reward of entering into the kingdom of their master. Though what was committed into their hands might seem much but their master sees it as little and more is to be committed into their hands. **Matthew 25:24 KJV** Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: the last servant came not really to make his master glad but to feed him with words and then to make the intentions of his decision known. He said, he knew his Master to be a hard man; that is, a man difficult to please because of his high standard and also a man that loves reaping where he has not sown. Hmmm From the statement of this servants we are able to see why he went to hide the talent given to him.

1. He did not see anything good in his master.

2. He sees his master as someone who is inconsiderate.

3. As a man who is greedy.

4. As a man who is oppressive.

5. He sees him as a dubious man who takes advantage of others.

One would have thought why the servant was unprofitable was because he was given little than others, which he did not appreciate but it was not so, the problem he had was against his master. Although these days we have servants whose reason for becoming unprofitable to The Lord Jesus Christ is because they see others having more talent than them, so they are filled with envy and wrath, therefore, they decide not to make use of the one they have, seeing it as too little. But in the case of this parable the servant placed himself above his master, seeing no reason why he should work for the gain of his master. Since there is no gain for him (the way he sees it) he decided to bury it, which means his thought was on the profit which he can get for himself not for his master, so he thought in his heart that since it would not profit me, it should not also profit my master. It is unfortunate that many people who are in the body of Christ are like this unfaithful servant. They are not concerned about the profit of their master, Jesus Christ. They are only concerned about their personal gains. The servant went to bury the talent so that no profit would be made to the master. In the same way those who use the gifts, talent, ministry, callings and potential that are divine and was given to them by God for the profit of themselves and not for the Master's profit have buried their talents, they have indirectly or directly said to the Master that He is a hard man who tries to reap where He did not sow. God called many into ministry and gave them gifts which should be traded (used) to make profits (win souls) into His kingdom, these potentials were given by God for the advancement of His own Kingdom but these ministers have used them to promote themselves. They have placed the Master who gave them these talents aside, therefore buried their talents. Any potential in a man that is not bringing profit to God is a buried one. Have you not buried your talent?

There are different ways whereby a lot of people have buried their telants.

- When a man uses his talents to glorify the devil he has buried his talents because that talent does not profit God who gave it to him.

- Those who use their gifts, callings for personal gains.

- Those who do not use their gifts at all.

- Those who refuse to answer God's call.

- Those who do not use their gifts to edify the church but uses it for financial gains outside the church and even within the church.

Because many do not see any physical gain currently, they have decided to make use of all God has embedded in them for their own gain and not for the gain of the Master. That's why some are called but do not preach the truth of God's Word because they are afraid of not getting members and they know if there are no members, there will be no money, they have buried their talents because they do not profit the master. The reply of the master shows the kind of way the master sees his servant for behaving in such a way, he called him a wicked and lazy servant. **Proverbs 18:9 KJV** He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster. Those who did not profit God with the things He has embedded in them are seen as wicked and in fact lazy. No matter how hard working a man can be in ministry if it does not go in the direction of making profit to the Kingdom of God, such a person is seen as lazy because it is still the same as though he has not done anything, the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God. **Matthew 25:27 KJV** Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Those who are like this wicked servant should know that on the last day they will have no excuse that will justify them. The master told him that since he saw him to be an hard man, why didn't he put the money in the bank that it might yield interest, this he said to shut his mouth up and to make him realise that there is no excuse for being unprofitable. Those who are faithful with that which God has given them would receive even more.

Matthew 25:28 KJV Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. While those who are slothful and wicked will have the one given to them taken from them and given to another, just like Judas **Acts**

1:20 KJV For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. It did not end there, judgment was pronounced upon him. **Matthew 25:30 KJV** And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. He is cast into outer darkness as a punishment for his slothfulness and wickedness, into where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. The same fate is to become of those who are also like this servant, the scriptures says that **the wicked shall be turned into hell and every nation that forget God**. This is an eye-opener to all of God's servants who are handling the truth in unrighteousness. **Romans 1:18 KJV** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; A day of reckoning is coming when every servant will give account of how he used the gift God has given to him and how he used it for the advancement of His Kingdom. Those who make profits for themselves now will be clothed in shame and will have their parts with sinners. **Luke 12:42-43 KJV** And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? **[43]** Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Would you be found faithful when the Master comes back? Think deeply and make amends.

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