

Study Guide for July 27th, 2003. Series: Parables of Jesus. Well Done? Luke 19:11-27

Introduction: When have you completed a job or project for which you were praised? How did it feel? Have you ever received a poor evaluation at the conclusion of a job or project? How did it effect you?

I. Expect a delay: (vs. 11-12)

{Historical note: Herod the Great received his kingdom by going to Rome. After he died, about 4 B.C., each of his three sons traveled to Rome to press their claims for a portion of Herod's realm}

- A. If you thought **that the Kingdom of God was going to appear at once** how would you live?
- B. If you thought that the Kingdom of God would be delayed, how would you live?
- C. Read Acts 1:6-8, has the expectation of the disciples changed? Compare with Acts 3:20-21.
- D. Read Mark 13:32-37. Would a detailed time table of Christ's return be a help or hindrance?

II. Entrusted with resources: (vs. 13, 24-26)

{Historical note: A *mina* equals 100 drachmas - a drachma is a day's wage - so about 3 months wages. A *talent* - see Matt. 25:14-30 - equals 60 *minas* - a vastly larger sum}

- A. According to the parable, the nobleman calls ____ servants and gave them ____ minas. (1 each)
- B. What did the nobleman expect of his servants? What spiritual lessons can you draw from this?
- C. Paul viewed himself as Christ's servant **entrusted with the secret things of God** (I Cor. 4:1-2). What do you sense God has entrusted to you? How well have you **put it to work**?

III. Evaluated by the King: (vs. 15-19)

- A. How do the first two servants describe the results? Where does the credit lie?
- B. Compare the results and rewards for the first and second servants? Any personal applications?
- C. Read Jesus words in Luke 16:10-12. How have you seen this principle in your life? Where might God be calling you to greater faithfulness?

IV. Exposed as wicked: (vs. 20-24)

- A. How would you describe the third servant's perception of the master? Do you know people who view God this way? Describe
- B. Why do you think the third servant receives the title **wicked**? Why is he so prominent?
- C. The mina is given to the first servant. Does this seem fair? Read Luke 8:18 and comment.

V. Enemies of the King: (vs. 14, 27)

- A. What happens to the enemies of the King? Does this seem harsh?
- B. "The coming of Jesus to the world puts every man to the test and compels a decision." Comment.

