

Making Wise Investments

Luke 19:11-27

The Ten Minas

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Things we need to know

- This is the last passage before Jesus goes into Jerusalem to be crucified
 - Luke is saying this is an important passage
- This is the last parable that Jesus tells his disciples and the people following

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Luke 19:11-27

¹¹While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. ¹²He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. ¹³So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.' ¹⁴"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.'

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- 15"He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.*
- 16 "The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.' 17 'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'*
- 18"The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.'*
- 19"His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'*
- 20"Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. 21I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.'*

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22"His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? 23Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'

24"Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.'

25" 'Sir,' they said, 'he already has ten!'

26"He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away. 27But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me.' "

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3 Things that I want us to observe in this passage

1. Jesus is the king and he is coming back!

- The Kingdom of God means the reign of Christ
- Jews saw salvation hand in hand with the kingdom
- The misconception was that Jesus was about to wage war on the Roman Empire. V.9-10
- The Jews were thinking with themselves in mind

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Two Chapters Earlier (*Luke 17:20-21*)

²⁰Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, ²¹nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.”

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- This parable is the only parable that resembles a historic even
 - Herod and Archelaus
 - Archelaus had to go to Rome to receive the inheritance of king
 - People hated him and 50 men went to tell Caesar that they did not want him as king
 - Caesar gave him the country of Judea but without the title of king.

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- Christ was trying to tell people that he wasn't going down like they thought
 - I am taking off to inherit my kingdom and when I come back, I am coming back as King.
 - They probably still didn't get it
 - The triumphal entry shows that people thought he was coming to wage war.
- Let's read Rev 19:11-16

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This is a picture that scripture gives us of Jesus as King

¹¹I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

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We are to fear Jesus because he is God

- Why did servant 3 get scolded? Wasn't he afraid of the king?
 - "I am afraid of you because you are a hard man"
 - The king in the story is not mad because his servant feared him but because the servant was accusing the king of being unjust.
- The King then judges the servant based on his own words which means:
 - "If I were unjust and you were afraid of me, should you not have just invested the money?"

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2. We can see from this passage that Christ is coming back as King....and,

- He has entrusted us with a task in the mean time.

- Like the king in the story, Christ has left us with a task while he is gone.

- That task is to show the world who Christ is by demonstrating his love as a means to Glorify him.

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What does this mean

- Christ trusts us
 - Seen in telling us to spread the Good News
- Christ rewards the faithful
 - The King in the story gave no guarantee of his return
 - The faithful servants were tempted like we are today to lose sight of Christ's return.
- How to avoid this
 - The danger is to get caught up in the day to day living without understanding the end result!

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C.S. Lewis said

“Our Lord finds our desires not too strong but too weak. We’re half hearted creatures, fooling around with drink and sex and ambition. When infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum, because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

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Our doubt of Jesus' return goes hand in hand with a lack of faith.

- this causes us to lose sight of the task at hand

“What have you done with what I have given you?”

There is a reward for us. But we choose the things this life has to offer.

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- The servant did nothing because he was lazy.
3. There are people who don't want Jesus to be King
- The unfaithful servant was like those who tried to rise up against the king
 - He was saying, I am better than you. He was distrusting, lazy, and selfish.
 - It was the same with Adam and Eve

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What we know:

1. Jesus is coming back as King
2. He has entrusted us with the task of resembling him to the world
3. And there are people who fight against his reign

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Here's the big question I want to ask this morning

What does it mean to live like the faithful servant who invested the masters money wisely?

- To follow Christ is to be like the servant who is faithful, submissive, fearful
- To be like that servant comes down to one thing. To Glorify God!

Why? We were created to glorify God!

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God doesn't exist for us but we exist for him.

- The Pharisees were asking Jesus when the Kingdom would come because of what they wanted
- Jesus was and is the only one who lived a completely glorifying life.
 - He is our example

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- Living the life of faithfulness and trust, requires that we ask “does this glorify or dishonor God?”.
- Jesus is our comparison
 - Did Jesus, get drunk? Lie? Hate? Cheat? Murder?
 - No

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4 things we should do/know

- Ask the question “does this honor God?”
- Read the bible. Find out who Jesus is
- Keep focused on the return
- Remember that we are not capable of perfection