

WEEK 1 | LUKE 19:12-27 | THE PARABLE OF THE TEN MINAS

Read The Parable of the Talents (or Bags of Gold) in Matthew 25:14-30 and write a summary below.

What would you say is the moral of that story?

Now read the parable of The Ten Minas in Luke 19:12-27. In what ways are these parables similar?

In what way or ways is The Ten Minas different than The Talents?

According to Luke 19:11, why did Jesus tell this parable?

You can make the case that both of these parables teach the same basic point, that we need to make the most out of what God has given us in this life for His glory. But there is another common thread in these stories that is worthy of our attention this week. In both stories, the master/king went away for a time (or even a long time) and then returned. Jesus was telling His followers that He came to establish His kingdom, but that it wouldn't be exactly what they expected or be fully realized until later on.

Jesus was constantly mentioning His kingdom and describing it in various ways. What do the following verses teach us about the Kingdom of God (or Kingdom of Heaven)?

Matthew 5:3

Matthew 5:10

Matthew 6:33

Matthew 7:21

Matthew 18:4

Matthew 19:23

Luke 4:43

John 3:3

John 18:36

I Corinthians 4:20

In Luke 19:11, we read that Jesus told the parable of The Ten Minas because the people had expectations to see Jesus set up His kingdom and begin His reign immediately. In the book of Acts, also written by Luke, the apostles were still wondering about the nature and timing of Jesus' kingdom. What question did they ask in Acts 1:6-7?

How did Jesus respond?

Let's now return to the main idea of the parable of The Ten Minas. The would-be king is giving resources (specifically money) to His subjects in order to see what they will do with what they were given while He is away. What did the King say to those who were good stewards of what they were given (Luke 19:17)?

Group Discussion

What are some of the things God has given you to care for or make good use of in this life?

Think about one of the answers that you offered to the first question. What would it look like for you to use what you were given in a way that honors the Lord?

What do you think it means that if we are faithful in the smaller things God will put us in charge of greater things?

What kind of emotions do you have related to the idea of giving an account to God as to how you handled that which He entrusted to you?

What effect do you think it has on people that Jesus has been away for a long time?

Is there anything else from the homework or teaching you'd like to discuss?