"What Have You Done with Yours?"

C.R. 9-23-18

Luke 19:11-27

Intro: To say this morning that I am concerned about the state of the church as a whole is a major understatement. Mark and I talked at length one day over this passage of scripture and the one word that kept coming back to us is the concern we have for the church. Yes the body of Christ as a whole, but the people here at this meeting place is where we are most concerned, because we have been called here. We are close to you.

Are we comfortable? Are we getting the job done? Do we come to church to be entertained, or do we see a great big lost world out there, and we see it as our duty to reach it? Do we believe it is the Pastor's and missionaries' jobs to get the lost saved and discipled and then report back to the congregation what they are doing? Do we think that writing a check to missions is all the evangelism we need to do?

Today we will look at a parable that Jesus told called the "Parable of the Pounds", and as we study this parable together we will answer the question "what is expected of me?", "what is expected of this church?", and what have I done with mine?" Questions that will not only be asked this morning, but will be asked when we stand before the Lord Jesus one day.

1) Each One's Allocation

- a. Talk about the parable and the Kingdom, and the King receiving his kingdom and leaving us to help build this kingdom.
- b. Each one received the same amount.
- c. This is not to be confused with the Parable of the Talents. We are not all talented in the same ways.
- d. However different our skills and abilities we all have the same amount of truth to impart.
- e. Phillips: The most brilliant orator in the most prestigious pulpit in the world does not have a better gospel than the most fumbling, bumbling, of preachers. The message is the same.

2) Each One's Obligation.

- a. Occupy: Get busy, do business with it.
- b. We have all been given the same gospel. The same gospel message has been given to each of the children of God.
- c. This parable is here to emphasize the common and equal responsibility that is ours to share the gospel.
- d. Until the Lord comes back this is EACH of our responsibility.

- e. Your responsibility is the same as mine.
- f. You cannot just write a check and then be free of your duty.
- g. This was not a suggestion. This is a command, and it is our obligation to tell others about Jesus.
- h. Note that Ephesians 6 talks about putting on the whole armor of God. Why?
- i. Do you put the armor on to sit in church, to mow the grass, to work on the house?
- j. No, you put it on to go into battle.

3) Each One's Explanation

- a. The king came back, and he demanded to see the books.
- b. He wants an explanation of what was done with what he gave them.
- c. Talks about how some explain what they are doing. Well, I just don't get out after dark. Well, I am just too busy. Well, that mission conference lasted till 9. Well I had to get my grass cut. Etc......
- d. Look at the Explanations of these 3 servants.
- e. Note the third one in verse 20-21
- f. This unfaithful servant is standing there making up stuff. There has never been a more loving King than this king.
- g. The truth is this servant made no attempt to do anything at all with what had been entrusted to him.
- h. It wasn't important to him.
- i. Fact: You will make time to do what is important to you. Your excuse is just that and excuse.
- j. If we would have had Tim Tebow speaking one night this week this building would have been filled. If we would have a famous blue grass group here we would have had to turn people away. The reason we had empty seats is because we had missionary families here who have sacrificed their lives and for many is just wasn't important enough.
- k. What is your explanation with what you have done with yours?

4) Each One's Compensation

- a. The one who had gained 10 pounds was given 10 cities.
- b. The one with 5 more was given 5.
- c. The one who did nothing with what he had was stripped of the one he had and it was given to the one with 10.
- d. Someone says that is not fair. It makes perfect sense. Why wouldn't God give and the investment to the one he knows will do right by it.

- e. He had proved himself to be the most diligent and most successful.
- f. How we serve today will help determine our reward and ministry when He comes in his Kingdom.
- g. What a shame. You make it to Heaven as by fire, and you have nothing to show for it. It was all about you. And people will know because your reward or lack of reward will prove it.
- h. This nation is not going down because of politics, or agendas. It is going down because the church is selfish and comfortable.
- i. Woe to those who are ease in Zion.
- j. Talk about what this church service is for. To equip you, to energize you, to send you to the battlefield to get busy.

What Have You Done with Yours?