

"THE 41 PARABLES OF JESUS CHRIST"

28 general parables and 13 kingdom of heaven parables

Parable #22 - "The Talents"

Matthew 25:14-17,18-21,22-25,26-29,30

The 13th of the 13 kingdom of heaven parables

BACKGROUND:

In 445BC, with **one Bible week** equating to **seven years** (a prophetic year being 360 days), God commanded that **seventy weeks** each of **7 years**, would be determined upon Israel, that is ... **70 weeks** x **7 years** = **490 years** (<u>Daniel 9:24-27</u>).

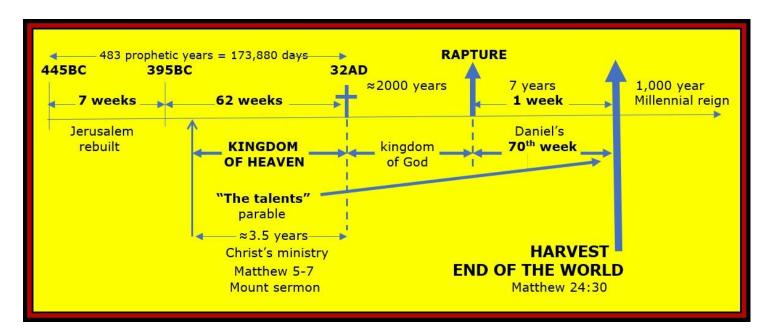
This time frame is broken into **four** time periods of (a) **7 weeks** + (b) **62 weeks** + (c) the mystery church age of about 2,000 years + (d) **1 week** = **70 weeks** and is explained as follows:

- #1. **Seven** weeks of years is $7 \times 7 = 49$ years ... the time it takes to restore and build Jerusalem from 445BC to 396BC.
- #2. **Sixty two** weeks of years is **62** x 7 = **434** years ... the time from the building of Jerusalem in 396BC to Christ being cut off at the cross in 32AD.
- #3. The church age of approximately 2,000 years
- #4. **One week** of years is $1 \times 7 = 7$ years ... this is the seven years of tribulation of God's wrath upon the earth, that takes place after the rapture ... called **Daniel's 70th week**.

The following **Timeline** will help (not drawn to scale):

DANIEL 9:24-27

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city ... from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks ... after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off ... he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week



"THE TALENTS" Matthew 25:14-17,18-21,22-25,26-29,30

"Perseverance of works to the end of the tribulation"

14 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 **one**; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey ... and so on.

EXPLANATION:

This parable is a simple story of a business owner (Jesus Christ ... "I must be about my Father's business" <u>Luke 2:49</u>) who takes a long trip (returns to heaven having been resurrected), comes home (Christ's 2nd coming to earth ... not the Christian rapture) and inspects the work of those he left in charge (Israel).

This parable is wrongfully applied to the kingdom of God dispensation to state that a man's works are necessary to get into heaven ... that is ... have you been good enough?

Secondly, all will reply "Well ... no-one's perfect ... but God looks at your heart" but cannot give any scripture to prove this. WHY? There is none!

However, they will trot out some scriptures from the sermon on the mount when Christ was on earth ... not realizing these verses are from a superseded dispensation.

In today's dispensation, works are needed to get into heaven ... CHRIST'S WORKS!

In this parable, perseverance with works in needed to get into heaven ... MAN'S WORKS!

EXPLANATION:

1. The context of this parable is the return of the Son of man ... that is at **the end of the seven years of tribulation**.

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the **Son of man cometh**. (Matthew 25:13)

- 2. This is **Daniel's 70th week** and will be a **Jewish** dispensation.
- 3. This seven years will be salvation by 'works'.
- 4. This will be a time of **perseverance** by 'works' to the end.
- 5. The **rapture** of the Christian church has happened seven years **previously**.
- 6. This is also the case of the worker who does **not endure** to the end (<u>Matthew 24:13</u>; <u>25:30</u>).
- 7. This parable **cannot** be shoe-horned into the Christian church age of the kingdom of God as outlined in Paul.
- 8. This has always been Israel's sin ... **unbelief** (<u>Hebrews 12:1</u>) and **disobedience** (<u>Hebrews 3:8, 14, 15</u>)
- 9. The worker in this parable must **persevere to the end** (<u>Hebrews 3:14</u>)

The Jew in today's dispensation must **hold their confidence to the end** (<u>Hebrews 3:14</u>) ... that is ... have Christ as their Saviour and not just as their Messiah.

- 10. It is obvious that the ten and five talent men have **persevered** to varying extents but the one talent man has not.
- 11. Spiritually speaking this has always been Israel ... **three** groups ...
- (a) **full on and serious** about the works of Matthew 5-7
- (b) the **half-hearted** who tried their best but did not have the faith or obedience of the ten talent people
- (c) those who were the **disobedient** and **unbelieving** ... as in the group that receive the **admonitions in Malachi**.
- 12. Under the kingdom of God dispensation, Paul's gospel, **SALVATION WILL BE WORKS** ... **JESUS CHRIST'S WORKS** ... with eternal security and salvation guaranteed,
- 13. Under this kingdom of heaven dispensation, there is no security ... and **the works** needed will be those of perseverance.
- 14. In the tribulation, works will be rewarded as follows ...
- "And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath." (Mark 4:24-25).

Those of five and ten talents receive back what they put in, but not the one talent man.

TODAY'S APPLICATION:

- 1. What a relief for those saved in the dispensation of today ... the kingdom of God ... Christ's works are all the works needed to guarantee salvation.
- 2. At the end of the seven years of tribulation, only those who have **perseverance of works** will be saved.
- 3. This parable is wrongly applied today, to show people they can lose their salvation.
- 4. There are only two religions today ... the **doing** religion and the **done** religion.
- 5. Dear Reader,

Do you have the **DOING** or the **DONE** religion?

Are you **good** enough to get to heaven?

Are you still working your way to heaven?

How much works will you need to get into heaven?

- 6. Not realizing the difference of the <u>dispensations</u>, the **doing religions**, **those which believe you can lose your salvation**, are Roman Catholicism, the SDA's, the Mormons and probably a lot of the other so-called Christian religions ... the 'tongue' speaking, tithing, water baptising ones and so on.
- 7. How many people has the misinterpretation of this Talents parable was sent to hell? Millions? People looking at their own achievements instead of those of Christ?

CONCLUSION:

Dear Reader,

Q: what are the entry requirements for heaven?

A: Pefection as the scripture says ...

"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and **yet offend in one point, he is guilty** of all."(<u>James 2:10</u>)

"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that **continueth not in all things** which are written in the book of the law to do them." (Galatians 3:10)

THE REMEDY?

"Christ hath **redeemed us from the curse of the law**, being made a curse for us: ..." (Galatians 3:13)

Redeemed? What is redemption?

Yes Dear Reader, **your ticket to heaven has already been paid for** ... believe on the man, Jesus Christ, God himself manifest in the flesh, who paid for it ... pick it up and praise God for your salvation!

If you're still trying to work off your sins, you're wasting your time! It's already been done!

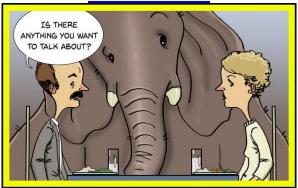
Harley Hitchcock November 2023

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