

THE PARABLE OF THE POUNDS

Luke 19: 11 - 27

INTRODUCTION

1. The parable was spoken at Jericho at the conclusion of Jesus' discourse at the home of Zacchaeus when Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem.
 2. The purpose of the parable:
 - (1) The disciples thought the kingdom would immediately be set up -- Luke 19:11
 - (2) Jesus taught the parable to restrain the people in their immediate expectancy of the kingdom.
 1. Jesus knew many Jews would reject Him -- Luke 19:14
 - (3) This parable, like that of the talents (Matt. 25), teaches the disciple's individual responsibility and warns enemies of Christ what their destiny was to be if they refused to bow to the authority of the King -- Luke 19: 27
 3. Points in the parable explained:
 - (1) The NOBLEMAN is the Lord Jesus
 - (2) The FAR COUNTRY is Heaven, to which Christ went to receive the kingdom.
 - (3) The POUND represents the ability and opportunity with which we have been entrusted to spread the Kingdom in the world.
 - (4) Verse 13, "*Occupy till I come*" means "*Do business with this until I come back*"--Christians are to be busy while the Lord is away.
 1. Till He comes we must observe the Lord's Supper -- I Cor. 11:26
 2. We must keep the will of Christ -- I Tim. 6:14
 3. We must hold fast till Jesus comes -- Rev. 2:25
 - (5) The return of the Nobleman represents the second coming of Christ, at which time He will make a final settlement with all men -- THE JUDGMENT -- Matt. 25: 31 - 33; John 12:48
- I. THE NOBLEMAN WENT TO RECEIVE A KINGDOM -- Luke 19:12
1. NOBLEMAN of that day had to go to Rome to receive their title and have it bestowed upon them.
 2. "*His citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, we will not have this man to reign over us*" --v. 14; Matt. 27:22
 - (1) When Herod the Great died, he was followed by his son Archelaus who reigned in Judea -- Matt. 2: 19 - 23
 - (2) History tells us that Archelaus went to Rome to get his title and the Jews hated him and sent a delegation to plead with Caesar not to appoint another Herod as ruler of Judea.
 - (3) But, they had no luck -- Caesar appointed him despite their opposition.
 3. For Christ to receive His kingdom, it was necessary for Him to ascend to heaven -- Dan. 7:13 - 14; Acts 1:11
 - (1) Christ began His reign over His kingdom on Pentecost in Acts 2: 29 - 36
 - (2) Isa. 2: 2 - 3

(3) Christ is NOW reigning over His kingdom -- I Cor. 15: 20 - 26

II. THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POUNDS

1. A POUND was given to each servant -- Luke 19:13
2. The pound represents the ability and opportunity with which we have been entrusted.
3. The servants were rewarded for their faithfulness in use of the pound -- Lk. 19: 15

III. THE NOBLEMAN'S CITIZENS HATED HIM.

1. The story of Archelaus
2. The Pharisees and many other Jews hated Christ -- John 15:25; 15: 18 - 20
3. This simply teaches that some refuse to let Jesus rule over them -- in fact the majority refuse -- Psa. 110: 1 - 2
 - (1) They will be lost -- Luke 19: 27

IV. THE RETURN OF THE KING AND THE JUDGMENT -- Luke 19: 15

1. The king's return represents the second coming of Christ -- Acts 1: 11; Rev. 1:7; II Thess. 1: 8 - 9; Matt. 16: 27; I John 2:28
2. The king upon His return
 - (1) First, he took account of his servants -- Luke 19: 15 - 26; II Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20: 11 - 15
 - (2) Second, he inflicted punishment upon his enemies -- Luke 19:27

V. THE SERVANTS OF THE KING WERE JUDGED INDIVIDUALLY -- Luke 19: 15 - 26

1. All the servants had ability and opportunity to teach and spread the kingdom.
 - (1) One gained ten pounds and became ruler over ten cities -- Luke 19: 18 - 19
 - (2) Another gained five pounds and became ruler over five cities -- Luke 19: 18 - 19
 1. He worked just as hard, but did not have as much ability
 - (3) The third one did not use his pound, and it was taken from him and given to him who had earned ten pounds -- Luke 19: 20 - 26
 1. He was an idler -- Luke 19:20
 2. He had neglected his opportunity.
 3. The king said, "*Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant*" -- Luke 19:22
 4. Members of the church who are NOT FAITHFUL will be LOST.

CONCLUSION

1. Three classes of people are represented in the parable
 - (1) Those who were OPENLY OPPOSED Christ -- Luke 19:14; 19:27
 - (2) Those who were FAITHFUL DISCIPLES -- Luke 19: 16 - 19
 - (3) UNFAITHFUL disciples -- Luke 19: 20 - 26

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