

The Tragedy of the Buried Talent

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 25.
- B. Jesus is looking at the attributes of a good service: wisdom and faithfulness.

II. Promotion comes from the Lord.

- A. A Christian should never seek a position in service.
- B. Position comes to Christians.

III. Faithfulness is always marked by obedience, and obedience is always immediate.

- A. The basis of one's reward from God is not the largeness of his ministry, but his faithfulness.
- B. The commended man was meticulous and took every opportunity that he could.
- C. The one who was not faithful with his talent was promised Jesus' judgment.
- D. The good servant represents faithful Israel while the bad servant represents faithless Israel.

IV. Application.

- A. Every Christian has a talent that he must invest.
- B. There is risk in every investment.
- C. What you gain you gain—what you do not lose, you lose.
- D. The use of a talent demonstrates what one loves. The talent becomes a test.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that the larger the church the more blessed that pastor is by God?

2. What is your talent?

3. How can you use your talent practically this week to further the gospel? Explain.
