

The Signs of Christ's Coming: The Tragedy of a Wasted Opportunity, Part 12

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 25:14-30.

B. Many that are a part of the church are not really living.

C. The church seems to tolerate people within its structure that do not really know God.

D. We must all be prepared for the Coming of Christ because we do not know the exact time that He will come. (Matthew 24:36, 42, 44, 50, 25:13)

II. In the kingdom there will be true and false servants.

A. There is one who when given an opportunity does not respond. The person who seems most excusable is not excusable.

1. There is coming a reckoning.

2. The source of every opportunity is from the Lord. There is also a reward for integrity that comes from the Lord. (II Timothy 4:8)

a. Rewards for the believer are basically greater opportunities for the believer.

b. There will be different levels of service.

c. Whatever service is rendered will be eternally satisfying.

3. Believers will enter into the very joy of the Lord Himself. (Hebrews 12:2)

4. God will hand out levels of rule based upon capacity. (Luke 19:17, 19)

B. There is the nonbeliever who is revealed by his fruit and by his attack. This man is illustrative of wasted opportunity. He does not know his Lord. Wickedness and laziness go together. (Luke 15, Matthew 18)

C. The true believer will receive a reward, which is more service. The nonbeliever will receive judgment only. (Matthew 22:13)

Application questions:

1. Will some people be greater than others in heaven? Explain your answer.

2. Why is laziness such a dangerous mark?

3. What does God's future reward of service tell us about how believers should view service in general? Explain.
