

Dollars and Sense

Is money a reflection of my walk with God?

Matthew 25:

*14 “Again, it (The Kingdom of Heaven) will be like a man going on a journey, who called **his** servants and entrusted **his** wealth to them.*

1. The Principle of Possession- Everything I have belongs to God.

15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

2. The Principle of Allocation- God has loaned me money.

Everything I own is really on loan from God!

16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

*19 “After a long time the master of those servants **returned** and **settled accounts** with them.*

3. The Principle of Accountability- One day God will audit me.

20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ 21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful

servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

22 "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' 23 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' 26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?

Proverbs 19:3

- *A person's own folly leads to their ruin, yet their heart rages against the Lord.*

*27 Well then, **you should have** put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.*

4. The Principle of Utilization- I must wisely use God's money.

*25 So I was **afraid** and went out and hid your gold in the ground.*

5. The Principle of Motivation- If I'm going to be successful in life, I must move against my fears.

*28 "So **take** the bag of gold **from him** and **give it to the one** who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.*

6. **The Principle of Application**- If I don't use it, I lose it.

7. **The Principle of Compensation**- God will reward me for the way I manage His resources.

23 *'**Well done**, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. **Come and share** your master's happiness!'*

30 And ***throw that worthless servant outside**, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

Are you using well what God has trusted you with?

My use of money is a direct reflection on my relationship with God!