



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 37

Who Is Faithful

Matthew 24:45-51 (ESV),

“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. But if that wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The teaching here from the Lord is remarkable and sets a sharp distinction towards those who are faithful and those who are not. As true believers in Jesus Christ, we are to obviously resemble the faithful and wise stewards. The steward is an interesting concept and is a good illustration even today to be able to incorporate biblical truths in a way that is easy to apply.

What I mean is that a steward is basically anyone who has been given charge over something from another person, usually by a manager or owner. This idea forms in our homes as well as workplaces in unique ways for each individual, but remains a good go-to guide to understand what Jesus meant here.

So in this case in Scripture, Jesus, being the master, gave charge over His household to another person or steward to take care of things while He was gone. What is remarkable about this is that He entrusted everything to a steward. Basically, all the work Jesus was doing while here on earth was entrusted to His followers or stewards to complete while He was gone. This, is, of course, in both behaviors as well as works. Obviously, the behavior aspect is relating to godliness and holiness in Christian virtues and character. And works represent the Great Commission of going and making disciples of all nations. Basically, we are all teachers and ministers of the Gospel. No one is left out of this job description so to speak.

Now, we move on from here to the idea that Jesus spoke about in verse 46, when He said, "*Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.*" So Jesus is saying that the servant who continues to work until He returns is blessed because they kept doing what they were told to do. The kicker is this, no one knows the exact timing of His return.

The reason why this was added in is that Jesus knew that people were going to grow weary and tired of waiting for His return and eventually fall away into worldly living and would conclude that He was not coming back.

Therefore, He exhorts the people with this parable. We all have a reason for discouragement at different times in our lives while walking with the Lord, but it is important to remember the cardinal rule if you will. He who has called you will also return for you. For this very reason, we have a strong obligation to the Lord as well as to each other to remain firm in the faith without wavering for he who wavers is like a wave in the sea that is driven to and fro.

Along with this, we understand that Paul came across people who were teaching that the day of the Lord had already come (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12). In other words, these false teachers were teaching that Jesus already came back for His stewards. Thus sowing extreme doubt and unbelief into the hearts and minds of the Lord's people, which in turn, would cause them to fall away from the faith and of being faithful.

Another point to ponder in this fight of faith to remain faithful is the temptation to look around at all the evil in the world and think to ourselves, '*what does it even matter, this business of serving the Lord? It seems like everything is just going on and on.*' Well, apparently Peter ran into an issue similar to this when he made this statement in 2 Peter 3:1-4 (ESV),

"This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation."

Now, as mentioned in a previous teaching, God is able to cause us to be faithful. We, however, need to want it and so cooperate with the grace of God to complete it. We are on assignment as stewards over the very household of God. We are the caregivers whom the Lord will use to declare His Kingdom come and His will to be done on this earth both now and forever and by His power at the work within

us.

Yet there is still more to come. Even though we have been given charge over the Lord's household, the future blessing will be far greater than anything we can fathom. However, what we do now matters to what we will experience later. With that being said, take courage faithful servants and stewards. Draw from the life-giving flow of the Lord Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit within. Today is a new day, let us rise to new levels of faithfulness and holiness to the Lord and cherish this call to be His stewards in the here and now so that in time to come we can fall down before the King of kings and the Lord of lords when things are all made new and cast our crowns at His beautiful feet.

We just want you to know that each of us indeed has different callings and gifts as stewards and no one is any greater or lesser based on what they are called to do. We are all in the same boat. Therefore, we want you to know that what God has for you to do is great no matter how large or small a job or task.

Therefore, do it faithfully unto the Lord and not unto men, knowing that you will receive the reward for how you did it, not necessarily for what you did. That is that what was done was according to God's specific will for you and not another.

We are praying for each one reading this that you will find a level of confidence in the Lord so that you can be assured that you are in His will and working as a faithful member of His household. We firmly believe that there is peace in knowing that you are standing firm in the Lord and pray that each person reading this can rest in that place.

Lord, You know our beginning from the end and yet still nothing surprises You. We are grateful for this because if this life was left to us we would just as soon fall away before we take up our crosses daily to follow You. But You give more grace to those who realize this and their need for You and also who approach You with great boldness and humility. Therefore, we draw near to You Father, so draw near to us and cause us to be more today like You than we have ever been thus far, in Jesus name. Amen.

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
Lights and Perfection, Inc



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