THE LORD’S GOODS

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. Matthew 25:14

We read the parable of the talents and we seem to focus all our attention on what each of the servants do with the talents and that is good for us to consider but as I read this parable again I noticed that the man traveling into the far country delivered unto them “his goods.” These goods were talents i.e. money. We do not take this man to be a poor man but this money meant a great deal to him and he certainly did not need to lose it. In fact, this money was needed to make him more money. Now I have pulled up a talent of silver on the internet and it showed a value of $10,760 per talent. I would say that eight times that much would mean a great deal to most anyone. $86,080 gets my attention! So the master would not place this much money in the hands of just anyone but he called his own servants to handle these talents. These people were true, tried and highly trusted. Before we think of this man being a bad man for wanting his money to make money, we should think of what we do with money. Some people will take money and buy an old car, fix it up, sell it and make money. Others might take money buy material to make clothes and sell them to make money. Some might invest some money in jars and spices to can goods and sell to make money. There are those who might take some money and buy tools so they can build houses and make money. So we cannot say this man was bad for wanting to make money. He invested some valuable goods in his servants. The return in the first was pretty good. His investment was $53,800 and he received in return $107,600. The return on the second was not bad. $21,520 was the amount trusted to him and he gained for his master $43,040. The return for the third was not good. $10,760 was entrusted to him to make his master money and he buried it instead of investing it, therefore the return was only what was invested. His master would have been just as well off to keep his money.

God expects us to do something with the gifts he has invested in us. How sad it would be to come to the end of our life and hear God say “I would have done just as well to keep these gifts for they have not been used. The master called this man wicked and slothful. Slothful means lazy. He was also called unprofitable. His judgment was to be cast out into the outer darkness where there was weeping and gnashing of teeth. Let us use what has been placed into our trust, whether it is great or small, for the glory and pleasure of our Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram