

FAITH AND GRACE CHURCH

LEARNING FROM THE MASTER (JESUS CHRIST- OUR CHIEF CORNERSTONE)

STUDY 20-35: THE PARABLES OF JESUS - PARABLES NO. 9

Text: Luke 12:41-48,

Parable No. 9 — The Parable of Faithful and Wise Servant (Luke 12:41-48)

Parable No. 8 — The Parable on watchfulness (Luke 12:35-40)

LESSONS: 1) The disciples—and all believers—must be ready for a return of Jesus at any moment.

- 2) You must allow for a delay that must neither reduce your expectancy nor impede your preparedness (vs 38). You must not let this delay discourage you so you fall into a trap or get overwhelmed by the toils and anxieties of life (Luke warns in 21:34)
- 3) You must faithfully manage the resources that have been entrusted to you by God. Don't forget, you are stewards—caretakers—not owners. As the last parable emphasized, you can't take it with you.

The parable faithful and wise Servant Luke 12:35-40

In the previous parable (#8) Peter recognized the general meaning of Jesus' teaching, but now asks for clarification. He wants to know if this exhortation to be prepared applies to all people or just to the disciples? Jesus answers this by giving this parable, saying that this is addressed to every one, that all are to be like a faithful and wise steward (manager). it is clearly stated that the consequence for not being prepared is total rejection and dismissal to the place of the unfaithful—and that it applies to everyone

in this parable, there are actually four kinds of servant discussed:

- a) One who knows what he should do, and does the right thing. (44 and 48b)
- b) One who knows what he should do, but does the wrong thing. (46)
- c) One who knows what he should do, but doesn't do anything. (47)
- d) One who does not know what he should do, and does the wrong thing (48a) -The ignorant

The one who knows what he should do and does the right thing gets rewarded with more responsibilities and blessings. Jesus reiterates this again in the second part of the last verse (48b)

This parable suggests degrees of God's purnishment: the faithful are rewarded, the ignorant are disciplined a little, the disobedient are disciplined moderately, and the blatantly disobedient are executed. In each case the stewardship of the servant is evaluated

Lesson: We are all in the Jesus Management Training school. He is teaching us all how to be good, godly stewards for Him. Our stewardship will be evaluated.