The Parable Of The Talents

I. <u>How Many Talents Has The Lord Given Me?</u>

Matthew 25:14-18 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. 15 <u>And to one he gave five talents</u>, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his <u>own ability</u>; and immediately he went on a journey. 16 <u>Then he who had received</u> the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 <u>And</u> likewise he who had received two gained two more also.

Luke 12:48 But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. <u>For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required</u>; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

Romans 12:4-8 For as we have many members in one body, <u>but all the members do</u> <u>not have the same function</u>, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 <u>or ministry</u>, let us use it in our ministering; <u>he who teaches</u>, in teaching; 8 <u>he who exhorts</u>, in exhortation; <u>he who gives</u>, with liberality; <u>he who</u> <u>leads</u>, with diligence; <u>he who shows mercy</u>, with cheerfulness.

II. Burying Our Talents

Matthew 25:18 <u>But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money</u>.

Matthew 25:25-27 And <u>I was afraid</u>, and went and <u>hid your talent in the ground</u>. Look, there you have what is yours.' 26 "But his lord answered and said to him, <u>'You wicked and lazy servant</u>, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.

Matthew 5:14-16 "<u>You are the light of the world</u>. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 <u>Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket</u>, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 <u>Let your light so shine</u> <u>before men</u>, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Revelation 3:1-2 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "<u>I know your works, that</u> you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. 2 <u>Be watchful, and</u> <u>strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your</u> works perfect before God.

III. Judgment For How We Use Our Abilities

Matthew 25:19-23 After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' 21 His lord said to him, '<u>Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.</u> <u>Enter into the joy of your lord</u>.' 22 He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' 23 His lord said to him, <u>'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord</u>.'

Matthew 25:27-30 So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And <u>cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.</u>'