

HIDDEN TALENTS Mt. 25:25

I. What are these talents?

- A. Abilities, physical, intellectual
- B. Possessions
- C. Opportunities, time

II. The Distribution of the talents.

- A. All had some talent
- B. Not all had the same amount.
- C. Talents really belonged to the Master;
Servants entrusted with them

III. How can these talents be hidden?

- A. Abilities may be unused or undeveloped
- B. Possessions may be wasted
- C. Opportunities may be neglected - *2 bags wheat - streckme - or field*
- D. *church members un-enlisted*
- E. *The talents were hidden in the earth.*

IV. How can these talents be invested?

- A. Use brings multiplication
- B. Invested for God's glory
- C. Used through the church
- D. For the help of others. Cromwell visited one of the great churches of England and discovered in one of the side chapels several silver ~~chairs~~ ^{statues}. "What are these?" he demanded sternly of the trembling dean who was showing him around the church. "Please, your Highness," was the reply, "they are the 12 apostles." "Well, take them away at once, melt them down, and coin them into money, that, like their Master, they may go about doing good."

Such is the mission that God has given to each one of us. The world we live in is not a great play-ground, but a vast harvest field, where every man must thrust in the sickle and reap.

V. There will be a day of reckoning.

- A. It will be inclusive
- B. It will be impartial
- C. It will be a day of great joy for faithful service; Richard Cameron, great Scottish

Christian, said as he lay mortally wounded, "I am dying happy, happy; and if I had a thousand lives I would willingly lay them all down one after another for Christ."

II. The Distribution of the talents.

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III. How can the Master be hidden? one student of church membership tells us:

- 5% of our members do not exist
- 10% cannot be found
- 25% rarely ever attend church
- 75% never attend your usual services
- 90% do not have family altars
- 90% do not tithe
- 90% make no effort to win souls.

IV. How can these be hidden?
A. Use bring the church
B. Invested for God's Kingdom
C. Used through the church
D. For the help of others
one of the great churches of England and discovered in one of the side chapels several silver chalices. "What are these?" he demanded sternly of the trembling dean who was showing him around the church. "Please, your Highness," was the reply, "they are the 12 apostles." "Well, take them away at once, melt them down, and coin them into money, that, like their Master, they may go about doing good."
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