

'Luke' - Extra Teaching Points #22

Luke 12:35-48 (NASB95)

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*"Be dressed in readiness, and keep your lamps lit. ³⁶ "Be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ "Blessed are those slaves whom the master will find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that **he will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on them.** ³⁸ "Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.*

³⁹ "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ "You too, be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect."

*⁴¹ Peter said, "Lord, are You addressing this parable to us, or to everyone else as well?" ⁴² And the Lord said, "**Who then is the faithful and sensible steward, whom his master will put in charge of his servants, to give them their rations at the proper time?** ⁴³ "Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. ⁴⁴ "Truly I say to you that **he will put him in charge of all his possessions.** ⁴⁵ "But if that slave says in his heart, 'My master will be a long time in coming,' and **begins to beat the slaves, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk;** ⁴⁶ the master of that slave 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 assign him a place with the unbelievers.** ⁴⁷ "And that slave who knew his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes, ⁴⁸ but the one who did not know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more."*

Vs. 37 What Jesus is saying here is unheard of—**masters don't serve their servants.**

- In Luke 17:7-9 Jesus describes the normal master/slave relationship.
 - Jesus' role as master is very different from earthly masters, and He is modeling what He expects from leaders in His Kingdom.
 - **Jesus views leaders as servants; a support system for others... not managers.**
 - Matt 20:25-28 *"But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. ²⁶ "It is not this way among you, but **whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant,** ²⁷ and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*
 - In His Kingdom, everyone must submit to and serve everyone else! (Eph 5:21; 1Peter 5:5-7)
- **Jesus is saying, that if we serve Him faithfully, He will treat us as though we are not servants at all, but rather He will serve us!**

Vs. 39-40 We need to be working for the Master like He is about to walk into the room.

- The point is, we don't know when He will be coming back, so there is no safe time to slack off or get distracted from the work He wants done!

Vs. 41 Peter is asking Jesus if he and the other apostles are the only ones being commanded to serve in this way, or if all disciples are to serve Him this way.

Vs 42-48 Jesus explains who His servants are, and what they are to be doing.

- Jesus expects **all His disciples** to be on the job and serving Him as if He is about to walk back into the room.
- Jesus also gives some insight into what the work He requires looks like.
 - [Vs 42](#) **The faithful steward is the one taking care of Jesus' other servants.**
 - [Vs 44](#) The reward for faithful stewardship is *more responsibility* ([Matt 25:14-30](#); [Luke 19:11-27](#)).
 - The reward comes upon the King's return; this should give us some insight into what life will be like after this life!
 - **What we do here, in this world, determines and prepares us for a specific role we will play in the New Heaven and New Earth ([Is. 65:17](#); [2Peter 3:13](#); [Rev 21:1](#)).**
 - [Vs 45-46](#) Mistreating Jesus' disciples, and being self-serving will result in being treated like you were never a believer! ([Is 66:22-24](#))
 - [Vs 47](#) Knowing what you should be doing, and not doing it, will result in being beaten... which is better than being treated as an unbeliever... but doesn't prepare you for work in the New Earth.
 - [Vs 48](#) Ignorance will lessen punishment, but won't eliminate it.
 - **Punishment will not just be for those who do wrong, but also for those who fail to do what is right.**
 - And again, what is forfeited is the opportunity to learn how to serve in the New Earth.
 - Also, we should take note that God seems to judge us based on how we respond to the light that's available to us... not to the light that *isn't* available.

Peter may well have been thinking about this conversation with Jesus when he wrote [1Peter 4:10-11](#).

- *"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹ Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."*
- We must use what God has given us to serve each other!
 - Apparently the role we will play in the New Heaven and New Earth will be a role of taking care of all that God has created – humans, plants, animals, and earth – just as God had in mind for man at the beginning ([Gen 1:28](#)).

Follow Up Assignment

Q: What role do spiritual leaders play in your life?

- Are they serving you like Jesus does? If not, why not?

Q: Are you working for Jesus like He is about to walk into the room?

Q: If Jesus returns today, will you be rewarded, punished, or given a place with the unbelievers?