

The Wasted Life Talents



Scripture

- **I Corinthians 3:11-15**

For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any many builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident, for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- **Matthew 25:14-27**

“For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. In the same manner the one who had received the two talents gained two more. But he who received the one talent went away, and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those slaves came in and settled accounts with them. The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, ‘Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’ But his master answered and said to him, ‘You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my money back with interest.’”

- **Matthew 13:8**

“And others fell on the good soil and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.”

- **Mark 14:1-9**

Now the Passover and Unleavened Bread were two days away; and the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to seize Him by stealth and kill Him; for they were saying, “Not during the festival, otherwise there might be a riot of the people.” While He was at Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining at the table, there came a woman with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure nard; and she broke the vial and poured it over His head. But some were indignantly remarking to one another, “Why has this perfume been wasted? For this perfume might have been sold for over three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.” And they were scolding her. But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you bother her? She has done a good deed to Me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them; but you do not always have Me. She has done what she could; she has anointed My body beforehand for the burial. Truly I say to you, wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of in memory of her.”

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Other Scriptures

- Matthew 10:42
- Deuteronomy 30:19
- Matthew 13:12
- Romans 11:36
- Matthew 26:41
- Matthew 10:39
- Daniel 12:3
- Revelation 22:12

Main Points

- You and I have the potential to waste our lives.
- Everything that you do matters.
- You and I are accountable to God.
- A talent is the ability that God has given us to be a blessing.
- What is important is not how many talents you've been given, but what you did with what God gave you.
- God determines the amount of talent given, but you determine the increase.
- Don't pass off on God what only you can do.
- Only those that extravagantly love Him will have a hundredfold fruit at the end of our lives.

Questions for Discussion

1. Rabbi stated that everything you do matters. Have you ever stopped to think about what an enormous truth that is? Write about three things you have done in your life that have had larger consequences than the immediate action. Then write about two things that have had some type of negative impact.
2. The definition of a talent is s a God given ability to be a blessing. What do you see as one or some talents with which God has gifted you? What have you done with what He has given you? What is in your heart to do? Is God spurring you to more action? Write about this.
3. Do you have a heart's desire to see fruit multiplied 100-fold? What did Rabbi say you must do in order to truly have this be so in your life?