

Matthew 25:14-30

“For it will be like a man going on a journey,  
who called his servants and  
entrusted to them his property.

“To one he gave five talents,  
to another two,  
to another one,  
to each according to his ability.

“Then he went away.

Matthew 25:14-30

“He who had received the five talents  
went at once and traded with them,  
and he made five talents more.

“So also he who had the two talents  
made two talents more.

“But he who had received the one talent  
went and dug in the ground  
and hid his master’s money.

Matthew 25:14-30

“Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’

“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’

Matthew 25:14-30

“And he also who had the two talents  
came forward, saying,  
‘Master, you delivered to me two talents;  
here I have made two talents more.’

“His master said to him,  
‘Well done, good and faithful servant.  
You have been faithful over a little;  
I will set you over much.  
Enter into the joy of your master.’

Matthew 25:14-30

“He also who had received the one talent  
came forward, saying,  
‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man,  
reaping where you did not sow,  
and gathering where you scattered no seed,  
so I was afraid, and I went  
and hid your talent in the ground.  
Here you have what is yours.’

Matthew 25:14-30

“But his master answered him,

‘You wicked and slothful servant!

You knew that I reap where I have not sowed  
and gather where I scattered no seed?

Then you ought to have invested

my money with the bankers,

and at my coming I should have received  
what was my own with interest.’

Matthew 25:14-30

“So take the talent from him  
and give it to him who has the ten talents.  
For to everyone who has will more be given,  
and he will have an abundance.

But from the one who has not,  
even what he has will be taken away.

“And cast the worthless servant  
into the outer darkness.

In that place there will be weeping  
and gnashing of teeth.”

Proverbs 6:6-11

Go to the ant, O sluggard;  
consider her ways, and be wise.

Without having any chief, officer, or ruler,  
she prepares her bread in summer  
and gathers her food in harvest.

How long will you lie there, O sluggard?

When will you arise from your sleep?

A little sleep, a little slumber,  
a little folding of the hands to rest,  
and poverty will come upon you like a robber,  
and want like an armed man.

Sow a thought, reap an action.

Sow an action, reap a habit.

Sow a habit, reap a character.

Sow a character, reap a destiny.

Romans 7:15

I do not understand my own actions.

For I do not do what I want,  
but I do the very thing I hate.

Romans 7:17b-24

For I have the desire to do what is right,  
but not the ability to carry it out...

I do not do the good I want,  
but the evil I do not want  
is what I keep on doing.

Romans 7:17b-24

Now if I do what I do not want,  
it is no longer I who do it,  
but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law  
that when I want to do right,  
evil lies close at hand.

Romans 7:17b-24

For I delight in the law of God,  
in my inner being,  
but I see in my members another law  
waging war against the law of my mind  
and making me captive to the law of sin  
that dwells in my members.

Wretched man that I am!  
Who will deliver me  
from this body of death?

## What accounts for my slothfulness?

- I'm Depraved
- I'm Daunted
- I'm Discouraged
- I'm Depressed

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DEPRAVITY!

What accounts for my slothfulness?

- I'm Depraved
- I'm Daunted
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DAUNTING PROSPECTS!

## What accounts for my slothfulness?

- I'm Depraved
- I'm Daunted
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DISCOURAGEMENT!

## What accounts for my slothfulness?

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DEPRESSION!

Matthew 20:1-2

“For the kingdom of heaven is like  
a master of a house who went out  
early in the morning  
to hire laborers for his vineyard.

“After agreeing with the laborers  
for a denarius a day,  
he sent them into his vineyard.”

Matthew 20:3-5

“And going out about the third hour  
he saw others standing idle in the marketplace,  
and to them he said,  
‘You go into the vineyard too,  
and whatever is right I will give you.’  
So they went.

“Going out again about the sixth hour  
and the ninth hour, he did the same.”

Matthew 20:6-7

“And about the eleventh hour  
he went out and found others standing.

And he said to them,  
‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’

“They said to him,  
‘Because no one has hired us.’

“He said to them,  
‘You go into the vineyard too.’”

Matthew 20:8-9

“And when evening came,  
the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman,  
‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages,  
beginning with the last, up to the first.’

“And when those hired  
about the eleventh hour came,  
each of them received a denarius.”

Matthew 20:10-12

“Now when those hired first came,  
they thought they would receive more,  
but each of them also received a denarius.

“And on receiving it they grumbled  
at the master of the house, saying,  
‘These last worked only one hour,  
and you have made them equal to us  
who have borne the burden of the day  
and the scorching heat.’”

Matthew 20:13-16

“But he replied to one of them,  
‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong.  
Did you not agree with me for a denarius?  
Take what belongs to you and go.  
I choose to give to this last worker  
as I give to you.  
Am I not allowed to do what I choose  
with what belongs to me?  
Or do you begrudge my generosity?’

“So the last will be first, and the first last.”

2 Peter 1:1

Simeon Peter,  
a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,  
To those who have obtained  
a faith of equal standing with ours  
by the righteousness of our God  
and Savior Jesus Christ.

Romans 7:24-25

Wretched man that I am!

Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Thanks be to God  
through Jesus Christ our Lord!