



WEEKLY STUDY

Jesus on Money - Week Three

Jesus gives one more parable before his arrival in Jerusalem. This lesson flows right out of the story of Zacchaeus and wraps up a series of teachings on possessions, wealth and money. Jesus has also been talking increasingly about the Kingdom of God as the story seems to be building momentum. That talk has led the crowds to anticipate that a new king was about to reign. They were eager to hear more. The parable of the Ten Minas may have caused some confusion to those who thought they had it all figured out (it may cause some confusion for us!), but it points to the coming story of Jesus' rejection by God's people and the role of disciples as we wait for his return. As you read and pray, consider how you are investing the gift that God has given you.

Peace of Christ,
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from your own daily reflections and consider the Group Discussion questions below. If you would like to get connected visit prov.church/smallgroups.

DAILY STUDY

MONDAY: LUKE 19.11-26 (NIV)

While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once.¹² He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return.¹³ So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'

¹⁴"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.'

¹⁵"He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.

¹⁶"The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'

¹⁷“Well done, my good servant!’ his master replied. ‘Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.’

¹⁸“The second came and said, ‘Sir, your mina has earned five more.’

¹⁹“His master answered, ‘You take charge of five cities.’

²⁰“Then another servant came and said, ‘Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹ I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.’

²²“His master replied, ‘I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³ Why then didn’t you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?’

²⁴“Then he said to those standing by, ‘Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.’

²⁵“‘Sir,’ they said, ‘he already has ten!’

²⁶“He replied, ‘I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away.’

- Jesus knew that people were anticipating a coming kingdom. They were looking for heavenly armies and for all of their enemies (the Romans) to be defeated. Jesus also knew that what he was ushering in (and what was already at hand) was a whole new reality. It’s easy to understand people who are eager for a promised future that is better than the current reality. Jesus knew that it wasn’t going to be an easy road, and so he is preparing them for a time of sacrifice and waiting. Do you find yourself anticipating the Kingdom of Heaven? What do you imagine? What do you hope for?

- **Prayer Prompt: “In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. (Daniel 2.44)**
- *God, I know that you have prepared the way for things to be set right in this world. Come Lord Jesus! Amen.*

TUESDAY: LUKE 19.11-26 (NIV)

- Jesus used recent history to set the stage for the bigger, spiritual thing that God was doing in between the arrival of Jesus and his return. One commentary on this passage tells us:
The background is the trip Archelaus took to Rome in 4 BC to be named king by Emperor Augustus after the death of his father Herod the Great, placing his officers in charge of his

money and property. Jesus undoubtedly intends the interim period between the nobleman's departure and return to represent the period between his first and second advents. This period, in fact, is what this parable is all about.- Osborne

It is helpful to remember that Jesus' original audience would have had a different perspective on the words and images he used, but the truth of what he taught is not limited by context. How does the promise of Jesus' return speak to our world today?

- **Prayer Prompt: At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” (Luke 21.27-28)**
- *Jesus, there is mystery in things too big for me to understand. But my trust is in you, the one true King of Kings. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY: LUKE 19.11-26 (NIV)

- In the parable we see the different investment strategies employed by the servants. Is the story really about making money or the stewardship of physical resources? The servants themselves seem to represent all of the followers of Jesus. This brings the question, “What will followers of Jesus do with the treasure they have been entrusted with?” What do you consider to be the treasure given to you?
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- **Prayer Prompt: “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6.19-21)**
- *God, you have given me so much more than I even realize. Forgive me for the things that I have unwittingly wasted. Make me a wise investor of Kingdom things. Amen.*

THURSDAY: LUKE 19.11-26 (NIV)

- They were told to “put this money to work”. This seems like a clear call to add value to what has already been given. What steps can we take to add value to what God has given to us? Does adding value always mean multiplication of money? How do you measure the value of your resources?

- **Prayer Prompt: For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29.11)**
- *God, I want to be prosperous in ways that give you glory and share Jesus with others. Amen.*

FRIDAY: LUKE 19.11-26 (NIV)

- Archelaus, the king that this parable had as a touchpoint, was rejected by his own people and actually lost part of his Kingdom. Jesus, as the King would soon be rejected as well, and it would appear that all was lost. The investment that he made in his disciples and the power of the Holy Spirit led to the multiplication of a Kingdom movement that we are still a part of today. Are there still signs of the rejection of Christ in the church and world today? What are signs of hope that seem to flow from that early response to his death and resurrection?

- **Prayer Prompt: I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. (1 John 5.13-14)**
- *God, you know what it feels like to see the masses move away from your will. I want to live according to your will and to stand strong in the midst of a world that seems to be moving away from you. Strengthen me as I long to live for you. Amen.*

SATURDAY: LUKE 19.11-26 (NIV)

- The very next scene in Luke is that of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The image of the King being lauded as he rides on a humble donkey is a stark contrast to a king who takes away what a servant failed to use responsibly. When you think about Jesus being the true King above all kings, what do you think about? What is different about this king?
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- **Prayer Prompt: For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever. (Isaiah 9.6-7)**
- *God, you have provided for us the King of Kings. There is no king like Jesus. Fill my mind with images and truth that keep my mind fixed on him today. Amen.*

GROUP DISCUSSION

Pastor Jacob gave us the following points to focus on as we apply this teaching to our daily life.

- We've got business to do—CALLING
 - What is your calling? What steps can you take to discover it?
- Those called to Christ's business are given the necessary gifts—GIFTING
 - What is your gifting? What do others say about your gifts?
- We must use these gifts wisely—INVESTING
 - How are you investing what God has giving you?
- We must continue to mind our business until Jesus—PERSEVERING
 - What does it look like for you to persevere in this period of waiting for Jesus?
- We will give account—ACCOUNTING
 - Today is probably not the day, but consider what your conversation with (grace-filled Jesus would be like as you make an account of how you have tried to live for him. .