ACCOUNTING FOR THE LITTLE THAT GOD GAVE US

Mat 25:22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

Mat 25:23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

This message is for those who have been given very few talents by the Lord because there is the danger of thinking that the talents are so few and insignificant that the Lord will not require of them from you. This would be an egregious error. God does not accept that any of his blessings, however small, are chucked away or neglected. This is the very reason the Lord Jesus commanded the apostles to gather the fragments of bread after he miraculously fed the 5000. "When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore, they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten" (John 6:12, 13). The fragments filled 12 baskets – the number of divine representation and authority. Even the fragments and crumbs of God have apostolic power. Hallelujah! This is why the Lord was impressed with the faith of the Syrophoenician woman who begged for the crumbs that fall from the table of Israel because she considered the crumbs God's crumbs.

Mark 7:28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

Mark 7:29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

Let us beg for the crumbs that fall under the Master's table! Let us not despise the day of small things, as the prophet admonished. "For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth" (Zechariah 4:10). Did you receive two small talents from the Lord? Squeeze out all the potential from them! God has a habit of choosing that which others despise for his glory. The donkey is not the prettiest animal; in fact, as a child I couldn't stand the braying of a donkey. When the Lord rode into Jerusalem, however, he chose a donkey, and the people threw palm branches and their garments for the donkey to walk upon. No other animal was honored in this way. The only talent or use a donkey had for humans was to carry heavy loads, such as goods or humans. That day, the donkey used his two talents gloriously. When your time comes to make

use of your two talents, use it gloriously for Jesus! Most of the people in the Bible had very few talents.

1Cor 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

1Cor 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

God has a good reason for giving most of his people just two talents. Let us say you and I were great orators with immense gifts of persuasion and magnetic personalities. People would attribute the success of winning souls to these great gifts, rather than the grace of God. The prophet Daniel made it clear to King Nebuchadnezzar that, as the head of gold in his dream, it was God who granted this power to him. "And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold" (Dan 2:38). Not long after, however, the King forget this and began to praise himself for his accomplishments. "The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?" (Dan 4:30). One tiny stone was all God used to bring down the mighty Goliath who oppressed the army of Israel for 40 days. The thousands of mighty warriors were of no use – the hero of that battle was one stone in the hands of a young boy, David. Don't complain that God gave you just a few small stones and no sword, shields and other sophisticated weapons. Just as one must account for the crumbs, one must also account for the small stones.

1Sam 17:40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

1Sam 17:50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

David could account for the small stone, while King Saul and his mighty men could not account for their sophisticated weapons of warfare. This is why he refused the sword of King Saul – this was not the talent that Lord gave him. But he knew how to use a stone and a sling. He had perfected this art when wolves and other predators came to attack his sheep. Don't envy other people their talents in the church; your job is to just perfect the art of the use of your small talent, your stones. God will bless your little stone and is capable of using it more greatly than the greatest gift in the church. Let us go back to our main text again.

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Notice the Lord rewarded this servant for his faithfulness in doubling the talent – not for the nature of the greatness of the work he accomplished. "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (I Cor 4:2). To account for something implies responsibility. Everything we have we have received from the Lord Jesus Christ. " Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17). The sheep David tended were not his but his father Jesse's. David risked his life for them because he was not willing to return home with any of his father's sheep missing. The talents we have belong to our Lord Jesus Christ. Even the guy who hid his talent acknowledged that it was the Lord's talent. "And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine" (Matthew 25:25). This was a very curious person indeed. He was faithful to ensure the talent was hidden in the earth, and he even told the Lord that the talent was where it should be according to him – in the earth. If the Lord wanted his talents to be buried somewhere, he would not give it to humans. It was for this reason the Lord commanded the fish to give up its coin because God will not waste his talents. What good is a coin for a fish?

Matthew 17:27 Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.

Perhaps the person who lost that coin which was worth a lot was going to waste it. The Lord Jesus knew whose coin it was and retrieved it so his and his apostles' tax could be paid. Let us beware we do not lose our coins and talents and others benefit from them! I don't want a fish swimming somewhere with my talent in its stomach! God forbid! What have you done with the talent of the Lord? Do not hide it somewhere because you may think it is too small or significant! It is still and will always be the Lord's talent, and you will give an account for it. May Jesus bless and multiply your talent for him!