

The Love of God – Luke 19:12-27

¹²Therefore He said: “A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. ¹³So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come.’ ¹⁴But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We will not have this *man* to reign over us.’

¹⁵“And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. ¹⁶Then came the first, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten minas.’ ¹⁷And he said to him, ‘Well *done*, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.’ ¹⁸And the second came, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned five minas.’ ¹⁹Likewise he said to him, ‘You also be over five cities.’

²⁰“Then another came, saying, ‘Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. ²¹For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’ ²²And he said to him, ‘Out of your own mouth I will judge you, *you* wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. ²³Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?’

²⁴“And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the mina from him, and give *it* to him who has ten minas.’ ²⁵(But they said to him, ‘Master, he has ten minas.’) ²⁶‘For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. ²⁷But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay *them* before me.’ ”

Open: Have you ever felt cheated by an employer?

→What words in the passage need to be explained for you?

1. Write down the various characters in this parable.
2. Who are the “good guys” and who are the “bad guys”?
3. What instructions did the nobleman give to his servants? (v. 13)
4. When he returned, how did he respond to what the first servant had done? (v. 17) the second? (v. 18)
5. How did the third servant respond to the master? (vv. 20-21)
6. What does the master say to this servant? (vv.22-23)
7. What does he have done to this servant? (vv. 24-25)
8. What does the master threaten to his enemies? (v. 27)

Apply

- Who demonstrates the greatest love in this parable?
- How does the master demonstrate love for his servants? For the citizens?
- How do the servants demonstrate love for the master?
- How is the master similar to God? Different from God?

The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us; just as the roof of a sunhouse does not attract the sun because it is bright, but becomes bright because the sun shines on it.

C S Lewis