

GIFTS and TALENTS Pt.2: SPIRITUAL GIFTS, YOUR ABILITIES from GOD

Let's refresh ourselves on the unprofitable servant.

Matt.25:24-30 - Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed (where you have not scattered seed): And I was afraid (I was afraid I would lose your money), and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that is* thine (here is your money back). His lord answered and said unto him, *Thou* wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury (interest). Take therefore the talent from him, and give *it* unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given (To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath (But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away). And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The servant who did not do anything with what he'd been given was called a wicked and lazy servant. He was called unprofitable which also meant useless and worthless. He did not steal what was given to him, he just didn't do anything with it.

When the lord came back to take account of his servants, he called him a wicked and lazy servant and he was cast into outer darkness. We aren't sure where outer darkness is, but it isn't heaven. Notice it says there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. That sounds like hell to me. Heaven is a place of peace and blessing. This servant did not use what God gave him and so he was not worthy of heaven.

You've heard the expression, "use it or lose it." That's exactly what happens to those who do not put the gifts and talents God has blessed them with to work for His glory and Kingdom. In the end, they lose everything, even eternal life.

Salvation is a free gift, once you are saved, you are to seek the baptism into the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit will help you to use your gifts and talents for God's glory. The book of James tells us that you cannot separate faith from good works. **(James 2:18)** Once you have salvation that comes through faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit moves you to do the good works God created for you to do. **(Eph.2:10)** Those who fight against doing work for the Kingdom have not read their Bibles. Right after the scripture that tells us salvation is a free gift, you go on to read that God has created us to do good works.

Jesus also called the wicked and lazy servant, unprofitable. If you say you are a Christian, are you profiting the Lord in any way? Examine yourself and be sure you are not an unprofitable servant. One that never speaks to others about Jesus. One that doesn't read his Bible or pray. One that does not support the work of God, the Kingdom of God with what God has blessed you with. Do you have godly fruit in your life? Are you sowing seeds into anyone's life or doing what you can to see anyone brought to salvation? Are you encouraging anyone in the body of Christ or helping anyone else at all?

Is it easy for others to see your fruit or would they be hard pressed to know of any godly fruit in your life? Jesus said we would know other Christians by their fruit. **(Matt.7:15-20)** And He said that every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Don't let that be you. Don't skate along on the false teaching of "once saved, always saved." Faith and good works go hand in hand. You cannot separate them. A real Christian will have both in their life.

I came to the Lord late in my life. I had not done a thing for His glory until 12 years ago. I praise God that He drew me to Christ and that I was able to finally get busy for His glory. What a shame it would be to stand before Jesus on judgement day and have nothing to show for His glory. You offered no encouragement to others, you never spoke of Jesus even to your own family, you never prayed for others salvation, you did not put the money God blessed you with to work for His Kingdom, you did not give or help those in need, you never fasted, you did not read God's Word or share it with anyone else, you did not even worship Him. If that sounds like you, then you are not saved.

A Christian is someone who has the Holy Spirit living inside of them, He is God and He will draw you to do all the things I just mentioned. He will empower you to

live a righteous life. There is no way that God is going to live inside of you and let you continue to live a useless, unprofitable life for Him. Many people have deceived themselves saying they are saved and they do not even desire Jesus. It is a turn off to them if you speak of Him. If you are embarrassed to talk about Jesus chances are you are not saved.

You do not receive gifts from the Holy Spirit until you are saved. You cannot be saved unless God the Father draws you to Jesus Christ. **(John 6:44)** Once you are saved, you need to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit. You want the fullness of God in your life, you need His full strength and power and it comes through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Remember Jesus told the disciples to wait until they had been endued with power from on High. **(Luke 24:49)** Then they went out and had successful ministries and Christian lives. They had a powerful impact from that point on.

Luke 11:13 - If ye then, being evil (sinful), know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?

The Holy Spirit is a gift to us from the Father. I did a teaching on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and I encourage you to go and listen to it if you haven't already. I will include the links to that teaching in my sermon notes and in the info. box where you are watching this sermon. God gives us gifts. Salvation is a free gift. The Holy Spirit is a gift. God gives us the armor of God to protect ourselves and fight against satan's kingdom. God equips us to serve Him.

There are people who can see into the future, or know things ahead of time. Some of them have told me that they had this gift since they were a child. I tell them, then it did not come from God. That is because before you are baptized into the Holy Spirit, you will not receive gifts like that. He, the Holy Spirit is the Gift Giver. Those gifts that people believe they have had all their lives, are not of God but from satan. They actually need deliverance to have that broken off their lives.

1 Corinthians chapter 12 lists many gifts of the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor.12:1-11 – Now concerning spiritual *gifts* (special abilities the Spirit gives us), brethren, I would not have you ignorant (uninformed). Ye know that ye were Gentiles (pagans), carried away unto these dumb idols (you were led astray into worshiping speechless idols), even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed (no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus): and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts (different kinds of gifts), but the same Spirit (the Holy Spirit is the One Who gives them all). And there are differences of administrations (different services), but the same Lord (but we serve the same Lord). And there are diversities of operations (different kinds of working), but it is the same God which worketh all in all (it is the same God at work in the different works and in each person). But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal (A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other). For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom (the gift of wisdom, that is the ability to give wise advice); to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit (a message of special knowledge); To another faith by the same Spirit (great faith); to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles (the ability to do special miracles); to another prophecy (the ability to prophecy); to another discerning of spirits (that is to be able to discern if a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit); to another *divers* kinds of tongues (the ability to speak in languages that the person does not know); to another the interpretation of tongues (the ability to interpret what is being said): But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit (it is the one and only Spirit Who distributes all these gifts), dividing to every man severally as He will (He alone decides which gift each person should have).

We do not all get the same gifts. We usually have at least one gift that we walk in or exercise pretty regularly in our lives. Although, God can cause you to operate in any of the gifts at any given time for His purposes. The Holy Spirit can also give you more than one of the gifts mentioned here. He can cause you to work in each gift at some point during your Christian walk. But usually we have one or two gifts that are very strong in our lives and that we exercise in regularly.

1 Corinthians 12:28-31 – And God hath set (placed) some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles (those that do miracles), then gifts of healings (those who have gifts of healing), helps (those who can help others), governments (of guidance and leadership), diversities of tongues (those who speak in languages not known to themselves). Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of Miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But covet (desire) earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

We are to desire spiritual gifts. Apostle Paul goes on from the end of chapter 12 to chapter 13 which is called “The Love Chapter.” Although now, because of the Mandela Effect, it says charity and no longer says love, in the KJV. If you were given all of the gifts, it would not matter... - if you did not have love for others. Your gifts would not profit the body of Christ at all without love.

Scott has the gift of helps and administration. He records and edits all the messages, maintains our website and all of our platforms. It is very time consuming and it is a lot of work. Those are not his only gifts but they are two of his strongest. He shares a daily scripture M-F on Facebook as a ministry of his as well.

There are a lot of gifts mentioned in Romans chapter 12. Several of my gifts are mentioned there.

Romans 12:6 -8 – Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us (In His grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well), whether prophecy (if God has given you the ability to prophecy), *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith (speak out with as much faith as God has given you); Or ministry (that is if your gift is serving others), *let us wait on our* ministering (then serve them well): or he that teacheth (if you are a teacher), on teaching (teach well); Or he that exhorteth (encourages), on exhortation (if your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging): he that giveth (if your gift is giving), *let him do it* with simplicity (give generously); he that ruleth (if God has given you leadership ability), with diligence (take the responsibility

seriously); he that sheweth mercy (if you have a gift to show kindness to others), with cheerfulness (do it gladly).

The gifts you are blessed with are not for your own use. Here's an example: You may be blessed with the gift of healing, but yet, you yourself may remain sick. You use your gifts to benefit others, to build up the body of Christ and to bring God glory.

CLOSING



Enjoy your Talents. God gave us these talents so we can enjoy them! Don't consider your talents as a burden, use them correctly to glorify God, and enjoy it!

That sounds strange at first, "enjoy your talents!" We use our talents for others, for the body of Christ and not for ourselves. However, in the process of using your talent, when you see God move, or you feel His power move through you, through your gift, then it brings you joy too. Like when Pastor Dalbeer has felt the power of God present to heal someone that he is praying over and in that very instant the person receives deliverance and healing. It makes his heart joyful too. You rejoice to see someone touched by the hand of God, and how amazing when He uses you to do it.



When you use your abilities to help others, God is glorified. Those that are impacted through the use of your gift and God moving through you, will praise God and glorify Him for it. They will give thanksgiving and many times they will thank Him for you and pray for you. **(2 Cor.9:11)** It is a wonderful thing to watch God move. He has gifted each one of us and equipped us for success in our Christian lives. Use your gifts and abilities to shine for His glory.

PRAYER