

1. *The giving of the trust.* The ten servants stand for all on whom the absent Lord places responsibilities. These are not confined to one; they are distributed. The Lord needs and calls many workers and many sorts of workers out for His service.

2. *The use of the trust.* There is no one more practical than our Heavenly Master. He looks for results—how the trust is used. This varies; partly according to ability and partly according to faithfulness. The first man in the parable was both capable and faithful, the second faithful but not so capable, and the third, stupidly and wickedly unfaithful. Under one or other of these three classes everyone must come. The teachers should press this fact home very closely, though with tact, upon the scholars. It is good to find out, whilst still young, just where we stand. There is the greater chance for setting the wrong right.

3. *The final awards.* In two cases an award of merit and in one of demerit. This proportion apparently will hold on the great judgment day—the faithful outnumbering the unfaithful and unworthy. Note on what a lordly scale Christ rewards. Ten cities for ten pounds. Note, also, that the reward is no mere glittering bauble. It is like the most highly-prized reward of the soldier's life, promotion to higher rank and heavier responsibility. A more satisfying reward

there cannot be. Let the warning from the "wicked" servant's case be made duly emphatic. He lost all; and lost all not because he had been misusing his pound, but simply because he had not used it at all. Impress upon the scholars also the awfulness of the fate of the disloyal and disobedient. (verse 27.) We need to dwell upon the punishment of sin, that men may be driven from it; as well as to display the rewards of righteousness, that men may be drawn thereby.

Bible Side-Lights.—Wise MEN—Gen 41: 8, 39; Ex. 7: 11; 2 Sam. 20: 16; 1 Kings 3: 12; Dan. 2: 21.

KING OF THE JEWS—Luke 2: 4; 19: 38; John 12: 15; 19: 14; Acts 17: 7.

HE WAS TROUBLED—Gen. 41: 8; Ps. 30: 7; 73: 3; Isa. 57: 20; Dan. 2: 1; Luke 1: 12.

PRIVILY CALLED—Judges 9: 31; Prov. 1: 11; Acts 16: 37; Gal. 2: 4.

EXCEEDING GREAT JOY—Matt. 5: 12; Luke 2: 10; 24: 52; 1 Peter 4: 13; Jude 24.

Topics for Brief Papers

(To be assigned the Sabbath previous.)

1. What can be done with one pound.
2. The scale of heaven's rewards.
3. The sin of doing nothing.

FOR TEACHERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

Connection—The outline of a tree, strokes for Jesus and the crowd passing by, will call the lesson. Who was trying to see Jesus? What did Jesus do for him? What does Jesus do for us all?

Introduction—Tell a story of a father who gave a piece of money to each of his children, telling them to make good use of it and at the end of a year he would see how much each had gained, and they could give their gains to the Century Fund. Tell some of the investments, viz.: Tom bought hens and sold the eggs; Mary used her money in growing beautiful flowers, which she sold to friends who sent them to the Children's Hospital, etc.

Lesson—Tell the parable, using strokes for

the king and his ten servants. Make the story very real, as each one of the servants comes to give an account of himself.

Practical Thoughts—We all have talents, powers, ability, given us by our Heavenly Father. (Explain.)

Jesus wants us to use these and increase them for Him. Let us show our ten little servants (fingers) to be used for Jesus.

King Jesus has "gone into a far country." He will call us all to give account of ourselves. "We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." (Rom. 14: 10.) Teach Golden Text.

How are we using our powers? Which servant do we wish to be like?