

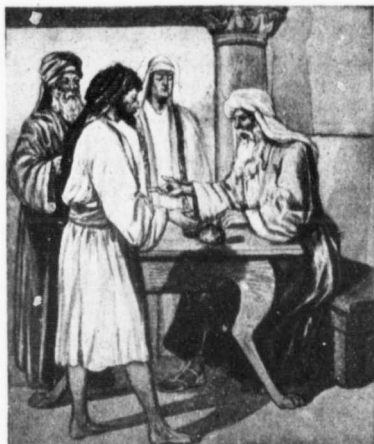
## Lesson IV.

## THE POUNDS AND THE TALENTS

July 26, 1914

Luke 19 : 11-27—Memory Verses, 16, 17.

**Golden Text**—Well done, good and faithful servant : thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things : enter thou into the joy of thy lord.—Matthew 25 : 21 (Rev. Ver.).



11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jeru'salem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear.

12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

14 But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

15 And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant : because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

18 And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

19 And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

20 And another came, saying, Lord, behold, *here is* thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin :

21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man : thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow.

22 And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, *thou* wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow :

23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury ?

24 And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds.

25 (And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.)

26 For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given ; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him.

27 But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

In this Lesson we have another story which Jesus told. Once upon a time there was a nobleman who had to go away on a long journey. As he was about to start, he called ten of his servants. He told them that he must go to a far country. Then he gave each a pound to trade with till he should come back. Now a pound was a sum of money amounting to about \$16. He wanted to see how faithfully each would serve him.

The master then went away on his journey. After he had finished his business, he came home again. He called his servants to find how they had taken care of the money.

The first servant came before his master and gladly said, "Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds." He had ten times as much money to give back to his lord as he had received.

The master was pleased with the faithful

servant. He said: "Well done, my good servant. Since I can trust thee in little things, I can trust thee in great. I give thee ten cities to rule." Then the faithful man went to do work which would help his master more than ever.

Another servant came and said to his master, "Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds." This man, too, had been faithful. He had served his master as well as he was able.

The master said: "Well done, my good servant. Thou hast served me well. I make thee ruler over five cities."

Then another servant came and said: "Lord, here is thy pound. I have kept it laid up in a napkin. I was afraid of thee. I might have lost the money. I know that thou art a hard-hearted man. I thought thou wouldst take all that I could earn."