

### He that had Received the Five Talents.

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nor us fairmers, he micht gie the minister a bit hint tae put up a prayer for rain next Sawbath day."

"But, Borland, I'm geyan doobtfu' if there's muckle use o' prayin' for a change in the wather afore the change o' the mune."

"Ods, man, it's worth tryin'. It micht aye help a wee: and if it did nae gude, it wadna dae ony harm."

"I'm thinkin', Borland, ye better just thole a wee while langer. And it's no vera lang ye'll hae tae wait: for I was lookin' at the almanac nae farther gane than yestreen, and I see the new mune comes in the morn's mornin' aboot three o'clock. I wadna be a bit surprised if ye get a pooerfu' onding o' rain afore the end o' the week."

"Man, James, it's no a big blatter o' rain that we want. It just rins doon aff oor hills intae the burn, withoot gaun intae the grund ava. I wad far raither see a fine saft shooer fa'in' canny and even for twenty-four hoors at least."

"I wad be geyan weel pleased tae see that mysel'. It wad freshen up everything in my ain wee bit plot."

"Man, James, I often wonner, whan I'm passin' tae see ye taen up sae muckle wi' thae bits o' flooers, as if your vera life depended on them. I'm thinkin', if ye had twa hunner acres tae look efter