

# The Parable of the Servants & the Gold Pieces

(Matthew 25:14-30)

Once there was a man who said such amazing things, and did such wonderful things, that people followed him wherever he went. He kept telling stories about a kingdom that wasn't like any other kingdom anyone had ever heard of. So people just had to ask him, "What is the Kingdom of God like?" Usually, Jesus answered this question with a parable. Once, Jesus said, The kingdom of God is like this:



Once, a rich man was going on a long journey. Before he left, he called his servants to him and gave them each some of his money to take care of for him.

To one servant, he gave five gold pieces. To another, he gave two, and to another, one. Then he left on his journey.

The servant who had been given five gold pieces went off and used the money to go into business, and made five more gold pieces!

The servant who was given two gold pieces did the same thing. But the servant who was given one gold piece was so afraid of losing it that he dug a hole and buried the gold piece in the ground.

When the rich man came back from his journey, he called the servants to him again to settle accounts. Then the servant who was given five gold pieces came forward and said, "Sir, you gave me five gold pieces,

and look! I have made you five more!" And the servant who had been given two gold pieces did the same. The rich man said to both of them, "Well done! Since you have been so trustworthy with a few things, I will give you much more to do! Enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had been given one gold piece came forward and said, "I was afraid, so I went and hid your gold piece in the ground. Here you have what is yours." And the master said, "Since you were too afraid to use the money like the others have, I am going to take your gold piece away and give it to someone who will use it to do some good."

That is what the kingdom of God is like, Jesus told the people following him. You can't be so afraid of losing it that you hide it away. You have to help it grow!