

“How Will You Spend Your Life?” **Matthew 25:14-30**

Be ready for the return of Christ by investing faithfully in the kingdom of Christ.

I. Recognize what God has entrusted to you (14-15).

- “But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.” (Eph 4:7)
- Talents are responsibilities God entrusts to you in light of the gifts, abilities, and opportunities he gives you.

II. Be faithful and diligent to make wise investments with your life (16-18).

- 2 Cor. 12:15 “I will most gladly *spend* and *be spent* for the sake of your souls.”
- “Engage in business until he comes.” (Luke 19:13)
- What does faithful investment look like? Consistent. Diligent. Work.
- William Carey said, “Only let us be faithful.”

Opportunities for Missional Investment

Friendships. Family. Job. Education. Money. Time. Saturdays. Singleness. Marriage. Parenting. Neighborhood. Co-workers. Hobbies. Social networking.

- “To seek first the kingdom is to desire above all to enter into, submit to, and participate in spreading the news of the saving reign of God, the messianic kingdom already inaugurated by Jesus.” - D. A. Carson
- 1) Enter into the saving reign of God through repentance and faith.
 - 2) Submit to the saving reign of God through radical obedience.
 - 3) Spread the news of the saving reign of God through joyful boldness.

III. Be prepared to face your Maker and settle accounts (19-30)

The Return of Christ

VII. The Mediator He will return again visibly and bodily.

XXII. The Judgment God has appointed a day, wherein He will judge the world by Jesus Christ when every one shall receive according to his deeds; the wicked shall go into everlasting and conscious punishment and the righteous into everlasting life.

- a. God sees and desires to reward our service
 - “So then each of us will give an account of himself to God” (Rom 14:12).
 - “The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45).
- b. God’s judgment and joy should motivate our investments (19-23).
- c. God will not allow the wicked to go unpunished (24-30).
 - “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’ (Matthew 7:21-23).

How will you spend your life? Will you waste your life? Will you invest your life in the kingdom of God? “We have only one life; it will soon be past. Only what is done for Christ will last.”

The Power of Christian Hope: Jesus provides an opportunity for us to joyfully spend our lives on what truly matters by investing in his kingdom. Jesus saves us from a wasted life.