

## Characteristics Of The Unprofitable Servant

**Scripture:** Matthew 25:14-30  
Luke 19:12-27

### Introduction

Jesus in these passages gives us insight into God's attitude toward anyone who isn't bringing profit to the kingdom of God. If we look closely at the passages we can find Him also pointing out the characteristics of the unprofitable servant.

#### I. He is a person of unreasonable fears

**Matthew 25:24b, 25a** ...Lord, I knew thee that thou art a hard man ... and I was afraid ....

- A. Fear that God is going to require too much
- B. Fear that our abilities are inadequate
- C. Fear that we might fail

#### II. He is satisfied with the status quo

Matthew 25:25b ...and lo, there thou hast that is thine.

- A. God doesn't need my talent and ability-- false modesty
- B. There is no reason to inconvenience myself--laziness
- C. There is no reason to take a risk-- unconcern
- D. It's better to have quality than quantity  
Ex: I'd rather have a few that really are consecrated than to have a church full of half committed people. This choice is not ours to make.

#### III. He was inactive in pursuing a profit

Matthew 25:18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth and hid his lord's money.

- A. The hiding of a talent
- B. Refusal to become consecrated

#### IV. He exposed himself to his lord's wrath

**Matthew 25:30** And cast the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- A. The lord had given responsibility according to ability
- B. The lord expected the servant to make a profit
- C. The unprofitable servant was punished