

## THE MAN WITH TWO TALENTS

1. Text: Matthew 25:14-23
2. This text is from the parable of the talents. We usually discuss the one talent man and to some extent the five talent man, but rarely the man with two talents. But think: would not most of us put ourselves with him? Let's see five things about him:

### I. **He Was Given Enormous Gifts.**

1. Notice: Though we use talent synonymously with ability today, they are not the same. Verse: 15 They were given talents "according to their abilities."
2. Enormous gift: A talent represented 20 years of work (with a denarius a day) and two meant 40 years of labor.
3. Servant: Greek word doulos is usual word for slave.
4. Master into far country: left servants alone, gave freedom, freewill.

### II. **He Was Along With The Others Given Unequal Opportunities.**

1. Talents: gifts or opportunities
2. False to nature: equality of abilities, opportunities (and, therefore, results)
3. Accepting limitations. Not jealousy, resentment, grumbling.
4. Originally to apostles. Andrew as an example.
5. Five talent man had more ability and gifts but also more accountability. (Luke 12:48)
6. Did he draw encouragement and inspiration from the five talent man?
7. Don't most of us fit here? Psalm 84:10 Glory of second place

### III. **He Was A Good And Faithful Servant.**

1. Verse 21: Good and faithful versus wicked and lazy (verse 26)
2. Faithful=trustworthy, dependable. "Trust of talents."
3. "Traded" is more basic word for work. He was active, energetic.
4. Great principle: Luke 16:10
5. He did what he could to the best of his ability.
6. He was not influenced by the one talent man (though he was closer in ability and gifts to him than the five talent man).

### IV. **He Was Called To Account.**

1. Verse 19: "After a long time."
2. "To settle accounts." II Corinthians 5:10
3. II Corinthians 8:12 "If there is a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have."
4. Like the five talent man, he gives credit to the Master (verse 22)
5. Could he ever "catch up to" or "live up to" the five talent man? Who cares!
6. A 100% profit is pretty good.

### V. **He Was Given The Same Reward As the More Talented Man.**

1. Identical language: Verses 21 and 23.
2. Commendation, promotion, and companionship
3. Verse 23: Ruler may suggest freedom from slavery.
4. "Joy of the Lord" could refer to feast celebrating Master's return.
5. Notice: Not ability, not opportunities, but how they were used was rewarded.

Conclusion:

**A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings  
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