

Well Done

Intro: The statement under consideration comes from the Parable of the Talents found in Matthew 25:14-30. It is stated twice in this parable: The master states it to the man to whom he gave 5 talents and to the man to whom he gave 2 talents. The master states: “^{21,23} His lord said unto him, Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord” (Mat. 25:21 and 23).

I. GOOD

A. **It comes from the Greek word ἀγαθός (*agathos*).**

B. **Ultimately only God is good.**

1. Luke 18:19 “¹⁹ And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none *is* good, save one, *that is*, God.”
2. Man can only be good in a limited sense.

C. **Man is good as he reflects God’s goodness.**

1. Mat. 5:16 “¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”
2. 1 Pet. 2:9 “⁹ But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”
3. Eph. 3:21 “²¹ Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”

II. FAITHFUL

A. **Faithful denotes:**

1. One who is reliable, trustworthy or worthy of full trust.
2. Zodhiates defines it as: “to win over, persuade. Worthy of belief, trust, or confidence.
1. Trustworthy... 2 Faithful in duty to oneself and to others, of true fidelity... 3 With an act. sense, firmness in faith, confiding, trusting, believing.”
3. BDAG has: “1. pertaining to being worthy of belief or trust, *trustworthy, faithful, dependable, inspiring trust/faith*... 2 pertaining to being trusting, *trusting, cherishing faith/trust*”
4. Thayer has: “1 *trusty, faithful*; of persons who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties... 2 *easily persuaded; believing, confiding, trusting*.”

B. **The servant was faithful.**

1. He took that which the master gave him and used it properly.
2. His master could rely on him to properly use what he gave him.

C. **We are to be faithful servants.**

1. Can God trust us to use that which He has given to us and use it properly?
2. All things belong to God; thus we are to use all things in His service.
3. Can He trust us to use our time, abilities, money, etc., for to glorify Him.

III. SERVANT

A. **It comes from the Greek word δοῦλος (*doulos*) which means slave.**

B. **A slave of God is:**

1. Owned by God; 1 Cor. 6:19-20 “¹⁹ What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰ For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

2. Lost his identity for God:
 - a. Dying to self; Gal. 2:20 ²⁰ "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."
 - b. Partaking of God's nature; 2 Pet. 1:3-4 ³ "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: ⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."
3. Lost his will for God
 - a. His will is to do the will of God.
 - b. Christ life was to do the will of the Father; our life must be to do the Father's will.

IV. THE REWARD

A. The Joy of our Lord.

B. Heaven

1. 1 Pet. 1:3-4 ³ "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,"
 - a. This inheritance is incorruptible.
 - (1) It is a contrast with the things of this world which decay.
 - (2) Heaven is permanent.
 - (a) Luke 12:33 ³³ "Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth."
 - (b) Mat. 6:19-20 ¹⁹ "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: ²⁰ But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal."
 - (3) Life in heaven will never end; 1 Cor. 9:25 ²⁵ "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible."
 - b. This inheritance is undefiled.
 - (1) There is nothing that is defiled, nothing sinful, in heaven.
 - (2) Rev. 21:27 ²⁷ "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."
 - (3) It is a place where there is no hate, no greed, no backbiting, no slander, no suffering physical or mental.
 - c. This inheritance will not fade away.
 - (1) Has reference to a flower that never loses its beauty, its bloom or its aroma.
 - (2) Fade away was used to denote a fire that was dying out.
 - (3) It thus is a symbol of perpetuity. It is everlasting.

Conclusion: Are you living in such a way that you will hear those words: "Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant"?