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: “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 “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 “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 “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 “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. Strong defines it as: “Trusty, faithful. 1A of persons who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties. 1B one who kept his plighted faith, worthy of trust. 1C that can be relied on.”
   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 δούλος (doulos) which means slave.
   B. A slave of God is:
      1. Owned by God; 1 Cor. 6:19-20 “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? 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 “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 “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: “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 “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, “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 “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 “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 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 “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 “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 it 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”? 