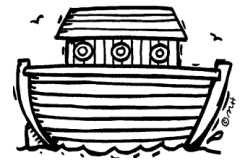


The Talents or The Story of the Three Workers.



(Matthew 25:14-30)

A man was going on a journey. He sent for his workers and put them in charge of his money.

He gave five bags of gold to one.

He gave two bags of gold to another.

And he gave one bag to the third.

The man gave each worker the amount of money he knew they could take care of. Then he went on his journey.

The one who had received five bags of gold went at once to put his money to work. He earned five bags more.

The one with two bags of gold earned two more.

But the man who had received one bag went and dug a hole in the ground. He hid his master's money in it.

After a long time, the master of those workers returned. He wanted to collect all the money they had earned.

The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. Master he said. 'You trusted me with five bags of gold. See I have earned five more'.

His master replied 'you have done well, good and faithful worker! You have been faithful with a few things. I shall put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

The man with two bags of gold also came. Master he said, you trusted me with two bags of gold. See I have earned two more.

His master replied 'good and faithful worker! You have been faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share you master's happiness!'

The man who had received on bag of gold came. 'master,' he said. 'I knew that you are a hard man. So I was afraid. I went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.

His master replied 'You, lazy worker! You should have put my money in the bank. When I returned, I would have received it back with interest.' Then his master commanded the other slaves. 'Take the bag of gold from him. Give it to the one who has ten bags.