

Matthew 24:47

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Analysis

Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods—The emphatic *amēn legō hymin* (ἀμὲν λέγω ὑμῖν = truly I say to you) introduces a solemn promise of reward. The faithful steward receives promotion: from managing the household to ruling over *panta ta hyparchonta autou* (πάντα τὰ ὑπάρχοντα αὐτοῦ = all his possessions).

This pictures the eschatological reward of the saints—reigning with Christ (2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 20:4-6), given authority over cities (Luke 19:17-19), judging angels (1 Corinthians 6:3). Faithful stewardship in small earthly tasks proves character for cosmic responsibilities in the kingdom. God tests with little before entrusting with much (Luke 16:10). The reward isn't rest but greater, glorified service in the new creation.

Historical Context

Joseph experienced this pattern—faithful slave became Egypt's prime minister (Genesis 41). Daniel—faithful captive became Babylon's chief governor (Daniel 2:48). Mordecai—faithful servant became Persia's second-in-command (Esther 10:3). These types foreshadow believers' exaltation at Christ's return. Paul promises that present suffering produces future glory (Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17)—faithful stewardship now results in reigning later.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of future reward and responsibility motivate your present faithfulness in small things?
2. What 'small' earthly stewardships might God be using to test your readiness for kingdom responsibilities?
3. How do you balance serving for love of the Master versus serving for hope of reward?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------|--------------|
| ἀμὴν | λέγω | ὕμῃν | ὅτι | ἐπὶ | πᾶσιν | τοῖς | ὑπάρχουσιν |
| Verily | I say | unto you | That | over | all | G3588 | goods |
| G281 | G3004 | G5213 | G3754 | G1909 | G3956 | | G5224 |
| αὐτόν | καταστήσει | αὐτόν | | | | | |
| him | he shall make | him | | | | | |
| G846 | G2525 | G846 | | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 25:23 (Good): His lord said unto him, Well done, 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.

Matthew 25:21 (Good): 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.

Luke 12:37 (Parallel theme): Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

Luke 12:44 (Parallel theme): Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

Revelation 21:7 (Parallel theme): He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 3:21 (Parallel theme): To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Luke 19:17 (Good): And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

2 Timothy 2:12 (Parallel theme): If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: