

Matthew 25:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

Analysis

And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two—The Greek *hōsautōs* (ὡσαύτως, likewise) emphasizes that the two-talent servant receives identical commendation as the five-talent servant (v.23). Both doubled their master's investment; both are called 'good and faithful.' God measures faithfulness relative to opportunity, not absolute results.

This destroys the prosperity gospel's lie that greater blessing indicates greater faith. The two-talent servant wasn't penalized for receiving less initially. Both servants were equally faithful within their assigned capacities, proving that Christ evaluates stewardship proportionally, not competitively.

Historical Context

In the ancient economy, doubling an investment in a single venture was considered excellent stewardship. The two-talent servant's achievement was proportionally identical to the five-talent servant's—both took similar risks and demonstrated similar competence. The master's economy rewarded proportional faithfulness, not absolute wealth creation.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. Do you despise 'small' ministries or 'lesser' gifts because they lack the visibility of five-talent servants?
2. How does knowing that God rewards proportional faithfulness free you from envy of others' giftedness?
3. Are you faithful with the 'two talents' you have, or paralyzed wishing for five?

Interlinear Text

ὡσαύτως	καὶ	τὰ	τὰ	δύο	ἐκέρδησεν
likewise	And	he that had received	he that had received	two	gained
G5615	G2532	G3588	G3588	G1417	G2770

καὶ	αὐτὸς	ἄλλα	δύο
And	G846	other	two
G2532		G243	G1417

Additional Cross-References

Ephesians 5:16 (Parallel theme): Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.
