

# Matthew 25:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

## Analysis

---

**Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more**—The servant's report emphasizes his master's initial entrustment (pente talanta moi paredōkas, πέντε τάλαντα μοι παρέδωκας) before claiming any credit. The word ekerdēsa (ἐκέρδησα, I gained) acknowledges effort but attributes opportunity to the master.

The phrase ep' autois (ἐπ' αὐτοῖς, beside/in addition to them) shows he returns the original five plus five more—transparency and honesty in accounting. He doesn't claim the original five as his own achievement. This models proper stewardship: recognize God's initial grace, work diligently, return all credit to Him.

## Historical Context

---

Ancient accounting required servants to distinguish between principal and profit clearly. Mixing the two could suggest embezzlement. By separating 'thy five' from 'five more I gained,' the servant demonstrates both honesty and competence—he can account for every talent, proving his stewardship was above reproach.

## Related Passages

---

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

---

1. Do you acknowledge God's prior grace when reporting your spiritual accomplishments, or claim credit for yourself?
2. How does this servant's transparency in accounting challenge any tendency toward spiritual pride?
3. Can you clearly distinguish between what God gave you and what you've done with it?

## Interlinear Text

---

καὶ	προσελθὼν	ὁ	τὰ	πέντε	τάλαντα	λαβὼν
<b>And so</b>	<b>came</b>	G3588	G3588	<b>five</b>	<b>talents</b>	<b>he that had received</b>
G2532	G4334			G4002	G5007	G2983
προσήνεγκεν	ἄλλα	πέντε	τάλαντα	λέγων,	Κύριε	πέντε
<b>and brought</b>	<b>more</b>	<b>five</b>	<b>talents</b>	<b>saying</b>	<b>Lord</b>	<b>five</b>
G4374	G243	G4002	G5007	G3004	G2962	G4002
τάλαντα	μοι	παρέδωκας·	ἶδε	ἄλλα	πέντε	τάλαντα
<b>talents</b>	<b>unto me</b>	<b>thou deliveredst</b>	G1492	<b>more</b>	<b>five</b>	<b>talents</b>
G5007	G3427	G3860		G243	G4002	G5007
ἐκέρδησα	ἐπ'	αὐτοῖς				
<b>I have gained</b>	<b>beside</b>	<b>them</b>				
G2770	G1909	G846				

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Acts 20:24** (References Lord): But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)