

The Profitable Servant: Applying One's Self

*The true purpose of life lies not in what we gain, but what we did with what was given us. The profitable servant – **profits**. He makes an increase with what he has been given. He is always doing more with what he has been given, **he's profitable**. Hence his life is always moving forward in gaining to increase, to make more of what was given, to grow, to become more than he is at present. One fails far more often through lack of purpose rather than lack of talent.*

Proverbs 14: 23 In all **labour** there is **profit**: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.

1Corinthians 12: 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to **profit** withal.

1Timothy 4: 8 For bodily **exercise** profiteth little: but godliness is **profitable** unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

Hebrews 12: 4~10 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days **chastened us** after their own pleasure; but He (*Yah*) for our **profit**, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

Luke 12: 42~ 48 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and **wise steward**, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so **doing**. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the **unbelievers**. And that servant, **which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will**, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, **shall be beaten** with few stripes. For unto whomsoever **much is given, of him shall be much required**: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

*There are a few topics addressed in these scriptures. First, one is laboring, working to be profitable. He is also being **exercised** by the Spirit in the **work** that he is doing using Yah's gift. And his labor comes with beatings or trials; he is being chastened in his labor to gain a worthy profit (meaning it costs him something in working for it). All this relates to the last scripture: **For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required**. Surely we can agree that the Bible is written to us, the believers, for correction and encouragement. We are the ones to whom much has been given and Yah expects to receive a profit from His blessings bestowed upon us.*

Matthew 25: 14 ~30 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man **according to his several ability**; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and **traded with the same, and made them other five talents**. And likewise he that had received two, **he also gained other two**. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and **hid his lord's money**. After a long time the lord of those **servants** cometh, and reckoneth with them. 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. 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. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, **I have gained** two other talents beside them. 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. Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, **I knew thee that thou art an hard man**, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And **I was afraid**, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His lord answered and said unto him, **Thou wicked and slothful servant**, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the **unprofitable servant** into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"I have gained," said the servant. How beautifully this illustrates what this faithful servant said on that day having "boldness in the day of judgment," coupled with his desire that "when He (Yahshua) shall appear we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming!" (also stated in 1John 2:28~29 & 4:17~21).

1John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, **we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.** If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that **every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.**

1John 4:17~21 Herein is our **love made perfect**, that **we may have boldness in the day of judgment:** because as he is, so are we in this world. **There is no fear in love;** but perfect love casteth out fear: **because fear hath torment.** He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

It is love, outgoing concern for others that casts out fear. If I'm doing all I can to help and support others, what fear do I have in not being there for them, or what could be said that would prove I did not care? Yes, it's easier to regret than to do at the time called to help, but that's only because we don't realize the cause until it's too late.

Continuing on in Matthew 25:14~30 we see that both servants are commended in the same terms, and the reward of both is precisely the same for doubling what was initially entrusted. Also observe the added gift: "Thou has been faithful as a servant; now I will make thee a ruler--thou has been entrusted with a few things; now have dominion over many things" and enter into my joy. Yet now notice the difference in the third servant.

*Matthew 25:18 states: **I was afraid:** But he that had received one talent went and buried it in the earth, and hid his lord's money. Not mispending it, **but simply making no use of it.** Afraid to do anything, his action or lack of action shows one who is fearful, anxious that the gift should not be misused or lost, but hidden, waiting to return it, just as it was received... unused, without profit, with no increase. This servant saw the value of the talent as something to protect, not to be lost, but stops there. It is as if it were a Bible filled with the words of Yah, a very valuable item, yet being left on the shelf unused, unapplied... worthless!*

So why does the servant act this way to the talents given him?

Revelation 21:7~8 He that **overcometh** shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But **the fearful (cowardly)**, and **unbelieving**, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The fearful, in Greek, "the cowardly" means being afraid...giving up, unwilling to challenge self and others in the act of serving. As one who was called to be a servant and given a most precious gift, then ignoring it, thinking it will go away if I don't look at it and everything will be back to normal, just fine. Fear and laziness go hand in hand; they're one in the same. Note the rebuke from Yahshua in the parable, Mt 25:26: "His lord answered and said unto him, "Thou wicked and slothful servant." The word slothful means tardy, grievous, lazy, idle, inactive, and indolent. Not taking up a challenge, but as one that refuses to engage.

One who has the spirit of "fear" demonstrates a characteristic of Satan, the opposite of the Holy Spirit of Yah... for love casts out all fear. Those who through fear and laziness are not bold before Yah are "drawn back."

*Physical actions are often a manifestation of our spiritual condition, as works show the physical signs of our faith. Your physical walk mirrors your spiritual walk. Your spiritual condition, your boldness for Yah, is made known through your physical action. One cannot claim one is walking in the spirit, when his physical life is **fruitless**. "Actions speak louder than words." He asks us to show Him our faith...through our action.*

The profitable servant – profits. He makes an increase with what he has been given including eating meals each day to grow to gain tomorrow, attending school or work to gain more knowledge or more wealth to have a better tomorrow, thus the principle of gaining to grow remains the same.

Luke 9:23 ~26 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, **let him deny himself**, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? **For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.**

James 2:17~18 Even so **faith**, if it hath not **works**, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and **I will shew thee my faith by my works.**

*We can think of ourselves as somebody, or even say, as the world tells us, "We should love ourselves," focusing on self. All words with no meaning, but it's our **actions** that show who we really are. Our fruit that we bear tells others who we are and what we truly believe in.*

Yah blessed us to become a distributor of His blessings, to be a transportation vehicle not a retention container. You are blessed to give not to get. The most important ingredient found in blessings involves contentment. But contentment is often overlooked while coveting, called idolatry, this desire to increase, never being satisfied, often obsesses our life, preventing us from just enjoying the moment, grateful for what has been given to us. We are blessed to give. Yes, there is a time for learning as in school and times for practicing aiding others, yet at some point comes our graduation into the world as learned people of our society. And so it is with Yah's teaching that will provide us the spiritual maturity to successfully overcome Satan's world.

Leviticus 19:23~25 And when ye shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food, then ye shall count the fruit thereof as uncircumcised: **three years** shall it be as uncircumcised unto you: **it shall not be eaten** of. But in the **fourth year** all the fruit thereof shall be **holy to praise the LORD**

withal. And in the **fifth year** shall ye eat of the fruit thereof, that it may yield unto you the increase thereof: I am the LORD your God.

These verses describe the principle of cultivating fruit in stages from being labeled uncircumcised, undesirable to the point of harvesting the increase for eating. Three years to mature, to grow and by the fourth year the first of the fruit in full growth is acceptable to be set aside for praising Yah, as giving to Yah the first fruit of the harvest as well as to others. In the fifth year and following years, the fruit is acceptable to be eaten to nurture all. A tree does not eat its own fruit, but its fruit is for others to enjoy the produce of its growth.

Luke 13:6~9 He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground? And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.

The profitable servant is seen, not in words...but with actions.

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