

Lessons From Three Parables

Scripture: James 4:17
Matthew 25:13, 30, 45-46

Introduction

The greatest sins in our lives are not the transgressions committed by us but the failure to do what is right. These three parables teach three sins of omission.

I. The lesson of preparation

Matthew 25:13 NIV Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

- A. Prepare for Christian living
 - 1. Walk uprightly before God
 - 2. Witness to others
 - a. In our lifestyle
 - b. In our conduct
 - c. In our conversation
 - 3. Worship him daily
- B. Prepare for spiritual growth
- C. Prepare for His return

II. The lesson of profitability

Matthew 25:30 NIV And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- A. Bringing increase into the Kingdom
- B. Being good stewards
 - 1. Time
 - 2. Talents
 - 3. Finances
- C. Bringing others to the new birth

III. The lesson of ministry

Matthew 25:45-46 NIV He will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me. I Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.

- A. Serving instead of being served
- B. Ministering as unto Christ