Follow Jesus: His Return

(based on Tim Howey's sermon)

Are you looking forward to Jesus' return, Luke 19:11-27?

The Parable

Jesus used the parable of the minas to picture what it will be like for us when He returns. How good the news is for you will depend on how you have used the gifts He gave you.

- If you use the gifts to tell people about Jesus and help them grow closer to Him, the news will be GREAT.
- If you don't use the gifts to point people to Jesus and help them grow closer to Him, the news will NOT be so great.
- If you reject Jesus, the news will be the WORST possible.

Understanding the Parable: Definitions

To get a better understanding of the parable, consider the meaning of the following words in the story:

- kingdom = spiritual kingdom of God inside Christfollowers, Luke 19:11
- nobleman = Jesus, who left and will return
- far country = heaven, **John 14:1-3**
- servants = Christ-followers, Rom 6
- riches = what Jesus gave you = His love, His Word, the Spirit, Eph 3:8
- do business = share Christ with others, help people grow in their relationship with Christ, 27im 2:2
- wicked servant = one who blames their lack of effort on God
- citizens = those who reject Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior

Which Type of News Will His Return Be for You?

- GREAT, 27im 2:2, Rom 8:
- Praise: Jesus will say, "well done" if you have spread His riches. Mat 25:21.
- Crowns: You will receive crowns to celebrate how you have served Him, 1Cor 9:24-27.
- ► Joint Reign: You will reign with Him on earth, **27im 2:12**.
- NOT SO GREAT, 2John 8:
 - You'll make it to heaven but Jesus won't say "well done."
 - You'll lose the gifts you didn't use to glorify Him.
- WORST POSSIBLE, John 14:6:
 - You won't make it heaven because you reject Him.

Promise and Questions

- Death isn't the end. It's shifting places from earth to heaven (if you are a Christ-follower).
- If you aren't regularly telling people about Jesus and helping them grow closer to Him, why not?
- Have you learned that your time in His Word helps you grow closer to Him and enables you to share Him with others?
- Are you looking forward to His return?

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