

**Introduction****Matthew 25:14-30**

<sup>14</sup>“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. <sup>15</sup>And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. <sup>16</sup>Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup>And likewise he who *had received* two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ <sup>21</sup>His lord said to him, ‘Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>22</sup>“He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ <sup>23</sup>His lord said to him, ‘Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>24</sup>“Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup>And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, *there* you have *what is yours*.’ <sup>26</sup>“But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. <sup>27</sup>So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give *it* to him who has ten talents. <sup>29</sup>“For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

**1 Corinthians 4:1, 2**

<sup>1</sup>Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. <sup>2</sup>Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

**1. Romans 12:1, 2**

<sup>1</sup>I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

**Answer:** (a) We give or submit our bodies to God in the same way we would give something to God as a sacrifice.

(b) This is reasonable because God who created us actually owns our bodies.

(c) We are transformed by God through His renewing of our minds.

**2. 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17**

<sup>16</sup>Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? <sup>17</sup>If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are.

**1 Corinthians 6:18-20**

<sup>18</sup>Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

**Answer:** Our bodies are similar to temples in which God and His Spirit live.

**3. 1 Corinthians 10:31**

<sup>31</sup>Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

**1 Thessalonians 5:23**

<sup>23</sup>Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Colossians 3:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, <sup>7</sup>in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

<sup>8</sup>But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, . . .

**Answer:** "... do all to the glory of God"; "... your whole spirit, soul, and body"; "put off the old man...and put on the new man".

**4. Proverbs 17:22**

<sup>22</sup> A merry heart does good, *like* medicine,  
But a broken spirit dries the bones.

**1 Timothy 6:6**

<sup>6</sup>Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

**Answer:** A merry heart and contentment.

**5a. Isaiah 35:8**

<sup>8</sup> A highway shall be there, and a road,  
And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.  
The unclean shall not pass over it,  
But it *shall be* for others.  
Whoever walks the road, although a fool,  
Shall not go astray.

**Revelations 21:27**

<sup>27</sup> But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

**5b. Proverbs 20:1**

<sup>1</sup> Wine *is* a mocker,  
Strong drink *is* a brawler,  
And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

**Proverbs 23:29-35**

<sup>29</sup> Who has woe?  
Who has sorrow?  
Who has contentions?  
Who has complaints?  
Who has wounds without cause?  
Who has redness of eyes?  
<sup>30</sup> Those who linger long at the wine,  
Those who go in search of mixed wine.  
<sup>31</sup> Do not look on the wine when it is red,  
When it sparkles in the cup,  
*When* it swirls around smoothly;  
<sup>32</sup> At the last it bites like a serpent,  
And stings like a viper.  
<sup>33</sup> Your eyes will see strange things,  
And your heart will utter perverse things.  
<sup>34</sup> Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea,  
Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, *saying*:  
<sup>35</sup> "They have struck me, *but* I was not hurt;  
They have beaten me, but I did not feel *it*.  
When shall I awake, that I may seek another *drink*?"

**Ephesians 5:18**

<sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, . . .

**Deuteronomy 29:6**

<sup>6</sup> You have not eaten bread, nor have you drunk wine or *similar* drink, that you may know that I *am* the Lord your God.

**5c. Exodus 20:12-15**

- <sup>12</sup> “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.  
<sup>13</sup> “You shall not murder.  
<sup>14</sup> “You shall not commit adultery.  
<sup>15</sup> “You shall not steal.

**1 Corinthians 9:25**

<sup>25</sup> And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for* an imperishable *crown*.

**5d. Genesis 1:29**

<sup>29</sup> And God said, “See, I have given you every herb *that* yields seed which *is* on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.

**Genesis 9:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. <sup>2</sup> And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move *on* the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. <sup>3</sup> Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. <sup>4</sup> But you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood.

**Leviticus 11:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying to them, <sup>2</sup> “Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘These *are* the animals which you may eat among all the animals that *are* on the earth: <sup>3</sup> Among the animals, whatever divides the hoof, having cloven hooves *and* chewing the cud—that you may eat. <sup>4</sup> Nevertheless these you shall not eat among those that chew the cud or those that have cloven hooves: the camel, because it chews the cud but does not have cloven hooves, *is* unclean to you; <sup>5</sup> the rock hyrax, because it chews the cud but does not have cloven hooves, *is* unclean to you; <sup>6</sup> the hare, because it chews the cud but does not have cloven hooves, *is* unclean to you; <sup>7</sup> and the swine, though it divides the hoof, having cloven hooves, yet does not chew the cud, *is* unclean to you. <sup>8</sup> Their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch. They *are* unclean to you.  
<sup>9</sup> These you may eat of all that *are* in the water: whatever in the water has fins and scales, whether in the seas or in the rivers—that you may eat. <sup>10</sup> But all in the seas or in the rivers that do not have fins and scales, all that move in the water or any living thing which *is* in the water, they *are* an abomination to you. <sup>11</sup> They shall be an abomination to you; you shall not eat their flesh, but you shall regard their carcasses as an abomination. <sup>12</sup> Whatever in the water does not have fins or scales—that *shall be* an abomination to you.

**5e. Romans 13:14**

<sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

**Philippians 4:8**

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

**5f. Psalm 46:10**

<sup>10</sup> Be still, and know that I *am* God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!

**6. 3 John 2**

<sup>2</sup>Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

<b>Answers:</b> Prosper in all things, be in good health, and guilt-free.
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**7. 1 John 5:4**

<sup>4</sup>For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

<b>Answers:</b> By being “born of God” we become a new person who is empowered through our faith in God to overcome the world.
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