INTRODUCTION: Jesus’ parables often surprise us because they contain an unexpected twist—an ending that sometimes seems unfair. The Lord’s parable about the minas is one of those stories that confounds us but also contains two important truths we should always remember.

I. The Setting For The Parable (Luke 19:11)

Luke 19:11 “And while they were listening to these things, He went on to tell a parable, because He was near Jerusalem, and they supposed that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately.”

II. The Parable Of The Ten Minas (Luke 19:12-26)

A. The Nobleman’s Journey (Luke 19:12-14)

Luke 19:12 “He said therefore, ‘A certain nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return.’”

Luke 19:13 “And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business with this until I come back.’”

Luke 19:14 “But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’”

B. The Nobleman’s Return (Luke 19:15)
Luke 19:15  “And it came about that when he returned, after receiving the kingdom, he ordered that these slaves, to whom he had given the money, be called to him in order that he might know what business they had done.”

2 Peter 3:8-9  “But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.”


1. The first servant (Luke 19:16-17)

Luke 19:16-17  16 “And the first appeared, saying, ‘Master, your mina has made ten minas more.’ 17 And he said to him, ‘Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, be in authority over ten cities.’”

2. The second servant (Luke 19:18-19)

Luke 19:18-19  18 “And the second came, saying, ‘Your mina, master, has made five minas.’ 19 And he said to him also, ‘And you are to be over five cities.’”

3. The third servant (Luke 19:20-26)

a. His inaction (Luke 19:20)

Luke 19:20  “And another came saying, ‘Master behold your mina, which I kept put away in a handkerchief,’”

b. His rationale (Luke 19:21)
Luke 19:21  “for I was afraid of you, because you are an exacting man; you take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.”

c. His judgment  (Luke 19:22-26)

Luke 19:22-23  22 “He said to him, ‘By your own words I will judge you, you worthless slave. Did you know that I am an exacting man, taking up what I did not lay down, and reaping what I did not sow? 23 Then why did you not put the money in the bank, and having come I would have collected it with interest?’”

Luke 19:24-25  24 “And he said to the bystanders, ‘Take the mina away from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas.’ 25 And they said to him, ‘Master, he has ten minas already.’”

Luke 19:26  “I tell you, that to everyone who has shall more be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.”

III. Principles From This Parable

A. Christians Should Adopt a CEO vs. Consumer Mentality

B. Our Commitment to the Cause of Christ Reflects Our Commitment to Christ

Luke 19:27  “But these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them in my presence.”

Matthew 25:30  “And cast out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Conclusion