

The Kingship of Believers (Part 6)
(The Present Implications of Our Kingship – Part 2)

Introduction: The Royal Identity of the People of God

- I. The Fact of Our Kingship
- II. The Renewal of Our Kingship
- III. The Nature of Our Kingship
- IV. The Present Implications of Our Kingship

→Our understanding of the future has practical implications for the present.

Stewardship:

1) The Parable of the Unrighteous Steward (Luke 16:1-13): Stewardship in the perishable things of this life is directly connected to stewardship in the imperishable things of the life to come. Christians shouldn't be less prudent and conscientious about kingdom concerns than unbelievers are about earthly concerns. Through the wise use of what will fail us we secure what will never fail us. Faithfulness in the lesser entrustments of this life brings greater entrustments in the life to come. Through the responsible use of what belongs to Another now, we obtain what will be our own in the future.

Neander: *“As the children of this world aim steadily at their selfish objects, and with ever-watchful prudence seize upon the means necessary to secure them, so the children of light are to keep constantly before their eyes the relations of life to the Divine kingdom, and to press everything into their service on its behalf.”*

2) The Parables of the Talents/Pounds (Matthew 25:14-29/Luke 19:11-27): believers will be rewarded in the life to come based upon their faithfulness with what was entrusted to them in this life.

- All of the servants receive something from God.
- God expects faithfulness from His people and rewards it proportionately.
- God condemns unfaithfulness and punishes it accordingly.
- God's rewards are conferred at the return of Christ.
- The faithful use of what the servants have now, in the present age, results in the possession of greater portions in the age to come.

Practical Lessons

- 1) Look forward with eager expectation to your full participation in the kingdom of Christ.
- 2) Think more consciously of preparing and training for future rule in the kingdom of Christ.
- 3) Seek now to obtain an abundant entrance into the kingdom of Christ.