

Sermon Worksheet, 9/13/09

So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus. (Acts 13:3-4)



Passage: Luke 19:11-28

Theme: Sent by the Holy Spirit, No.4

In this drill, we will learn what God's will is for us concerning the kingdom of God in the period we live today.

Observations:

- 1) Pay attention to how the passage begins at v. 11. You will notice that it is contextually connected to the earlier event. Where was Jesus at this time, and what was happening before this? Which part of Jesus' ministry does this incidence belong to? Where did he go after this, and what was going to happen there?
- 2) According to v. 11, what prompted Jesus to speak this parable? What were the listeners thinking about "**the kingdom of God**"? And what did it have to do with Jesus in their mind?
- 3) With these things in mind, try to interpret this parable. Who is "**A man of noble birth**", and where did he go when "**he went to a distant country**"? When was/is it that "**he was made king...and returned home**"? Who are "**ten of his servants**", and what is "**mina**"? What does "**Put this money to work**" mean? Also, try to explain what "**take charge of ten cities,**" and "**I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth,**" etc. mean.

Personal Applications:

- 1) According to the interpretations you gave in Observation 3), what is really true about "**the kingdom of God**" that, the people believed, "**was going to appear at once**"? How is it really going to appear, according to Jesus? Do you see it is related to what Jesus answered to the disciples' question in Acts 1:6-8?
- 2) Where are you in the timetable given in this parable? Are you in the period before the noble man went to a distant country, or in the period between that and the time of his return from that distant country with kingship? Or, are you living in the time after he already returned?
- 3) Who are you in this parable? What is it that you need to do in the period you are living? What is "**mina**" to you, and how can you "**put this money to work**"? And, what does "**to keep it laid away in a piece of cloth**" mean to you?

Prayers, and etc.

- 1) Pray that you will put your "**mina**" to work well.
- 2) Pray that your group, or your family will be used for the kingdom of God this fall.
- 3) Pray for the recent newcomers, and the individuals whom you want to bring to church till the end of September. **Please list their names and include the list in your report.**