



*Priorities from the Parables
of our Lord Jesus*

We are unworthy servants

Luke 17:7-10

⁷ "Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? ⁸ Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

This "offensive" parable

▲ The servant-serving scenario

⁷ "Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep.

▲ The supper sequence

⁷ Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? ⁸ Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'?

▲ The subservient spirit

⁹ Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do?

The obvious points

▲ Obedience is expected

¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do

▲ Obeisance is expected

¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

The overflowing principles

▲ We accept our purpose

⁷ "Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep.

- ▼ **We exist to work for the Master and produce for him**
- ▼ **We exist to worship the Master and point to him**
- ▼ **We exist to wait upon the Master and please him**

▲ We acknowledge our place

⁷ Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? ⁸ Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

- ▼ **We are unworthy to sit in the presence of the Master**
- ▼ **We are unworthy to share in the abundance of the Master**
- ▼ **We are unworthy to serve in the house of the Master**

▲ We appreciate our privileges

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

John 1:12 To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Colossians 1:12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. ¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

2 Corinthians 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

- 1. Jesus has educated us beyond a normal servant's education.**
- 2. Jesus has employed us for more than a normal servant's responsibility.**
- 3. Jesus has elevated us above a normal servant's position.**
- 4. Jesus has embraced us with more than a normal master's love.**
- 5. Jesus has endowed us with more than a servant's share of the inheritance.**