

GOD'S TALENTS ARE GIVEN US, BOTH TO BE ENJOYED AND TO BE USED

The Business Man and His Partners

Inspired in the parable of the three servants. (Mt 25/14-30)

Intent of the Parable:

- *God has given to all of us a certain amount of talents.*
- *He expects us both, to judiciously enjoy them and make them yield as much as possible for the good of others and for his glory*
- *God wants us to use our talents to make our lives happy and productive.*
- *He who uses God's talents well, more will be given to him.*

The Parable

A wealthy businessman had to leave his town for a long period time. Before parting, he called his three business partners and told them: I'll entrust you with my moneys. I'll give each one of you one crore of rupees. You may judiciously enjoy my money, but, I bid you at the same time, to honestly work hard with my moneys and make them yield the highest profit possible. After my return, I'll ask you for an account of how you used my moneys.

The first Partner prudentially, enjoyed his Master's money, while at the same time he worked very hard with it. After a long time of hard labor he made a profit one crore of rupees.

The second partner, though an honest man, was a lazy fellow He neither enjoyed his master's moneys, nor made them yield anything. He went home and kept the money in his strong box.

The third Partner, a greedy and dishonest man, misused his masters' wealth. He drunk, gambled, went in bad company and led a riotous life. At the end, he squandered all his Master's moneys.

After a long time, the Master returned. Soon, he began taking an account from his Partners of how they used his money.

The first Partner said: Sir, you gave me one crore of rupees. I am very grateful to you for that. Honestly, I tell you that I enjoyed your money in a prudential way and at the same time. I worked very hard with it. I am happy to tell you that I made a profit of another crore of rupees. Here, Sir. I hand over to you two crores of rupees.

The Master was very pleased with him and said to him; well done, my faithful and trustworthy partner. As a reward for your labour and trust, keep for yourself the one crore you made, and give me back only the one crore I entrusted you. From now on, you will be my most trustworthy partner.

The Second partner said: Sir, I was afraid of losing your money, so I kept your money in my strong box. I neither spent anything of it for myself, nor did I make any profit. Here is your crore of rupees, intact, safe and sound.

The Master was very annoyed and reprimanded him saying: Why did you neither enjoy my money, nor trade with it hard to make some profits? Lazy man! You neither enjoyed it, nor did anything good with it. Right now, give me back my crore of rupees, and for your neglect. I dismiss you from office.

When the Master called the third partner he came in trembling and fear. Sir, he said: well...well... I can't tell you how I lost your money. I am sorry. Pardon me!
The Master yelling at him said: you lazy, unfaithful, dishonest and wasteful man. I know how you lost my money! Drinking, gambling and in riotous living! Just now, I'll hand you over to the police for stealing and pilfering my moneys. I'll see to it that you stay in jail until you repay me my last paisa!. Be gone! Get lost of my sight.