INTRODUCTION

1. A Triple Parable with the same theme: Watchfulness
   a) Parable of good servants awaiting the return of the Master   Luke 12:35-40
   b) Parable of a watchful houseowner Luke 12:39
   c) Parable of good and bad servants in contrast waiting for the Master Luke 12:42-48; Matthew 24:45-51

2. They were spoken to the Disciples

PARABLE OF THE GOOD SERVANTS
Luke 12:35-40

1. Encouragement to be good and faithful

2. Defining terms:
   a) Waiting
      They wait for the return of the Master Luke 12:36
   b) Watching
      They are watchful Luke 12:37
   b) Ready
      Challenge to be ready all the time Luke 12:40

3. Understanding Time
   a) Day Time
      i) 1st hour 7.00am
      ii) 11th hour 5.00pm
   b) Night time
      i) 1st Watch 6.00pm- 9.00pm
      ii) 2nd Watch 9.00pm- 12.00nn
iii) 3rd Watch  12.00nn- 3.00am
iv) 4th Watch  3.00am- 6.00am

3. The 1st Parable
The Parable of the Watchful Servants

a) The Master is away at a wedding
The house is left to the servants

b) The Return of the Master

i) 1st Watch  (6.00pm- 9.00pm)
Luke 12:36-37

ii) 2nd Watch  (9.00pm- 12.00mn)
Luke 12:38a

iii) 3rd Watch  (12.00mn- 3.00am)
Luke 12:38b

c) Blessing of the good and faithful servants


ii) They immediately open the door  Luke 12:36

iii) 1st Watch context (though not mentioned)

d) Blessing also of the watchful servants

i) If the Master returns on the 2nd Watch  Luke 12:38a

ii) Or if he returns on the 3rd Watch  Luke 12:38b

4. 2nd Parable
Parable of a wise house owner

a) A short parable

b) Watchfulness is essential

c) Watchfulness of a house owner

i) If he knew when the thief comes, he would have kept watch
Luke 12:39a

ii) He would be able to prevent the thief from breaking in Luke 12:39b

POINT OF BOTH PARABLES

1. Therefore you also be ready,

2. For the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect Luke 12:40

THE QUESTION OF PETER

1. “Lord, do You speak this parable only to us,”

2. Or to all people?” Luke 12:41

THE THIRD PARABLE
Parable of Contrasting Servants
Luke 12:42-48; Matthew 24:45-51

1. The good steward of the house
   a) He is faithful
   b) He is wise (prudent) Luke 12:42a
   c) He is appointed to be head of his household Luke 12:42b
   d) He is in charge of the other servants (he looks after their meals) Luke 12:42c
   e) He is blessed when the Master returns and finds him faithfully serving Luke 12:43
   f) He will appoint him to a higher position
      He will look after all the Master’s goods Luke 12:44

2. One example of a bad steward of the house
   a) He thinks that his Master will not be returning soon
   b) He is described as bad servant Matthew 24: 48
   c) He beats both male and female servants Luke 12:45
   d) He is described as drunk (with drunkards) Matthew 24:49
f) The punishment of the bad steward

   i) He will be cut in two

   ii) He will be given the portion of the unbelievers Luke 12:46

3. A second example of a bad steward

   a) He knew his Master’s will Luke 12:47a

   b) He did not prepare himself to do according to his master’s will Luke 12:47b

   c) He will be beaten with many stripes Luke 12:47c

3. A third example of a bad steward

   a) He did not know Luke 12:48a

   b) He did things worthy of punishment Luke 12:48b

   c) He will be beaten with a few stripes Luke 12:48c

**POINT OF THIS PARABLE**

1. For everyone to whom much is given, From him much is expected Luke 12:48d

2. And to whom much has been committed, Of him they will ask the more Luke 12:48e

**SUMMARY OF LESSONS**

1. Be watchful

2. Be faithful and wise

3. Never abuse rights and privileges

4. We are all accountable

5. We will be blessed when we are truly faithful and watchful