

The Great Historical Interval

During the month of November, we have been studying a series entitled, Road of Jericho Ministry, taken from the Book of Luke. In our [last lesson](#), Jesus' Road of Jericho Ministry stirred up the legalists by staying in the home of Zaccheus, the sinner, in Jericho (Luke 19:5, 7, 28). Today's lesson takes place at a bible study in the home of Zaccheus where Jesus gives them the "Parable of the Minas". Historically, a mina (mna) was worth about three month's salary.

We will examine the parable taken from our lesson text by the following six homiletic points.

- Departure to distant land (Lk.19:11-12)
 - The nobleman departs to receive a kingdom as a king.
- Doing business in interval (Lk.19:13)
 - Ten servants doing business with citizens.
- Delegation of citizens (Lk.19:14)
 - The citizens hate the nobleman and do not want him to reign over them.
- Debut of king (Lk.19:15a)
 - The nobleman returns as king over the kingdom.
- Divine accountability (Lk.19:15b-26)
 - Two categories of servants, production, and rewards: good and worthless (1 Cor.3:12-15).
- Divine judgment (Lk.19:27)
 - The citizens were the enemies of the kingdom and king (John 1:11-13).

This lesson will study four aspects of the Great Historical Interval taught in this parable.

- 1. Luke shows that Jesus gave three reasons for teaching this parable at Zaccheus' home bible study. He used three Greek present infinities to give these three reasons.**

“And while they were listening to these things, He went on to tell a parable,

- because He was (eimi / p.a.infin) near Jerusalem
 - The Cross and Departure
- and they supposed (dokeo / p.a.infin)
 - Making a false assumption of the kingdom and the king
- that the kingdom of God was going (mello / p.a.ind.) to appear (anaphaino / p.p.infin) immediately.”
 - They did not understand the great historical interval. (Lk.19:11)

Doctrinal principle: A false assumption leads to a false interpretation that leads to a false expectation which leads to a **false application**.

- 2. This parable teaches that there will be a Great Historical Interval between His First Advent (departure / cross) and His Second Advent (return / crown).**

This Great Historical Interval is called **the Church Age**.

During this Great Historical Interval of the Church Age Jesus goes to a distant land (heaven) to receive acquisition of kingly authority over kingdom. Kingly rule did not come with the First Advent but will come with the Second Advent (Rev.19-20).

During the Great Historical Interval of the Church Age Jesus Christ will be absence from the place over which He will reign as King of kings.

- The church of Jesus Christ will occupy and do the business of the Lord Jesus Christ until He returns as King of kings and Lord of lords.
- **Eucharist:** “For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you will proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.” (1 Cor.11:26)

3. The Great Historical Interval of the Church Age will be time of great opportunity for ambassadors of Christ to evangelize the world (2 Cor.5:17-21; Matt.28:18-20; Acts 1:8).

The Jews (citizens) remain hostile towards the gospel of Jesus Christ during Great Historical Interval of the Church Age. (Luke 19:14; John 1:11-13; Rom.9-11; Luke 21:24).

The servants of Jesus Christ will be left to minister to this hostile group; and to the Gentiles who will be receptive to it (John 15:18; Rom.1:16; 3:9-10; 10:9-13, 17; 11:11, 15).

It is important for the servants of Jesus Christ to understand the superiority of the gospel product in spite of the hostile market place of the world (Matt.28:18-20; Rom.1:16; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Eph.2:8-9).

4. This parable teaches five important facts about the First and Second Advents of Jesus Christ.

- It teaches that **the cross comes with the First Advent** of Jesus Christ (Col.1:20).
- It teaches that the **crown comes with the Second Advent** of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.9:25).
- It teaches that Jesus Christ becomes the Savior **by way of the cross and resurrection** (1 John 4:14)
- It teaches that He becomes the King of Kings and Lord of Lords **by way of the crown** (Rev.19:16).
- It teaches that in the Great Historical Interval the Church Age Believers (CAB) **needs to be a faithful servant** of The Lord Jesus Christ until He returns (Matt.25:21).

These doctrinal principles are taught in a similar parable called, Talents, in Matt.25:14-30.