



Rewards for faithful service

“Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing” (Matthew 24:46).

Bulletin VCMT91

27 April 2022

Towards the end of His teaching on His second coming, Jesus pointed the attention of His audience to the blessedness and rewards of faithful service as well as a warning to those who are otherwise.

“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; 49 And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 24:45-51).

Knowledge is powerful, but it can also become dangerous, and potentially useless, if there is no commitment to faithfully applying them to achieve the ultimate purpose for such knowledge. It is wonderful to know all about the end time events, but if person does not make the rapture, of what use would such knowledge serve him/her?

There is always an ever present temptation lurking the pathway of every Christian to seek greatness, success, fame, power, recognition and breakthroughs, etc. than faithfully continue in humble service that may seem to be a drudgery that may not be recognised nor applauded by all. None of these is wrong on its own, but to pursue them at the expense of commitment to faithful delivery is misplacing ones priorities and following a downward spiral to destruction, especially as such outcomes also have the potential of generating pride, which God opposes.

All through scriptures, in His dealings with humanity we find that God places high premium on faithfulness over success. Many of the choice

“Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods” (Matthew 24:47).

servants God used in the Bible, first had to pass their tests on faithfulness.

Observe these salient scriptures on divine rewards:

- 1) Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- 2) Hebrews 6:10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.
- 3) 2 Chronicles 15:7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.
- 4) Jeremiah 31:16 Thus saith the Lord; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.
- 5) 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

God is not so much after great talents as He is for humble and faithful service. He commended the poor widow who gave two mites more than the rich who gave more (Mark 12:42-44). Therefore, throughout all the challenges and vicissitudes of life, we must remain faithful to our call, if we are to hear on the judgement day from our Lord and Saviour “... Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord” (Matthew 25:21).