



Account-Ability

By Evangelist Derick E. Wilkes

Matthew 25:14-19 (New King James Version)

Vs 14 - "For *the kingdom of heaven is* like a man traveling to a far country, *who* called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.

Vs 15 - And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own **ability**; and immediately he went on a journey.

Vs 16 - Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents.

Vs 17 - And likewise he who *had received* two gained two more also.

Vs 18 - But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.

Vs 19 - After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled **accounts** with them.

Let's read verse 19 in the New Century Bible.

Vs 19 - "After a long time the master came home and asked the servants what they did with his money. (Translation – *where my money at?*) Emphasis added!

These servants needed to give an ACCOUNT for their ABILITY.

As you recall from verse 15, this Master gave each person according to his *individual ability*, and he is now requiring that each person give an account.

We generally apply accounting concepts to finances; however these accounting concepts can be applied to other areas as well.

Accountability – is the willingness to accept responsibility, or to be answerable to others.

Accountability provides a **checks and balance system** to us that will protect us from harming ourselves and others.

Romans 14:12 - So then every one of us shall give **account** of himself to God.

Christian Accountability is accounting for what we are up to. It is the realization that we are liable, responsible, and answerable for our actions in life to God, and to one another.

Accountability provides support, counsel, encouragement, and affirmation to us all.

Here is what accountability is not!

Christian Accountability is not about confrontation, but about challenging one another to grow in the things of God.

Accountability is necessary, in order to reach our full potential. Accountability will go against ones independent attitude and fear of conviction.

We all must give an account for how we handle our finances to the Internal Revenue Service.

Why not give an account as to how you handle your life, ministry, business, etc...

To ask God to forgive you is to be accountable.

Are you accountable to anyone?

Are you accountable for your actions?

An accountability system can help you to achieve your goals.

What does that mean?

Well, my wife desires to stay at 130lbs, and what she does in order to maintain that weight, is to weigh herself every morning, in order to monitor where she is as it relates to this plan.

Natalie holds herself accountable to this system!

Furthermore, she allows me to play a role in this accountability plan. She shares her weight with me daily, and I act as an encouragement and a coach, in the process.

Accountability will require commitment from the person looking to be accountable, and commitment requires consistency.

This is something that I have been *practicing* for 17 years and it really works. We must give it time to work.

1 Corinthians 11:31-32 - For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

Vs 32 - But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

Judgment can be favorable or unfavorable!

Judgment is not a negative word!

We get to choose what side of judgment we are on by judging ourselves and holding ourselves accountable to God's standards.

Accountability provides examination, evaluation, assessment, correction, and perfection of growth and development. *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

NUGGETT: The measure of our receptivity to accountability principles reveal our level of responsibility.

If we associate only with people that tell us how great we are, to feed an ego, it will result in a deception that ignores where we need to change.

People that are accountable are also faithful people. They hold themselves accountable to timelines, standards, laws, one another, employers, and spiritual leadership.

Accountability is not just upward, but also downward. Leadership is also accountable to those of whom they are called to serve.

As a Pastor, I realize that I am accountable to my partners, team, congregation, member churches, for how I handle my assignment and more...

Locate where you may, not be accountable as you could be, and make the necessary adjustments and increase your accountability today.

Prosper,

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