Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

Matthew 25:14-30

14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

In this parable of the talents we learn that the kingdom of heaven is like the Son of man travelling into a far country, this can be seen better in Mark 13:34 "For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." (Mk 13:34) You can see in each instance that the Son of man called his servants and delivered his goods and gave them authority over the goods. However, to the servants were not given the same work load. They did not all have the same positions. They also were given the work load according to their "several ability". So they were not given what they could not do. There was not put upon any of the servants above his ability. This does not mean that some servants didn't have the same work. Such as working the fields. However, those working in the fields would have to have those who also oversee the work and the production. Each person according to their "several ability".

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And **likewise** he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

It is ok to aspire to have God give to you more talents, or more work. However, it is not ok to envy others and the number of talents and workloads that they have been given. As each servant was given by his Master, the Son of man, according to their "several ability".

You may have **the same gifts or abilities** to do certain work for the Master as other servants! However, if the Master of the house did not assign you to this work then you are out of the will of God if you are forcefully trying to get into that work area. There is a right way. It is through prayer and asking for God's direction, speaking to the Pastor or ministry depending upon the work you wish to be a part of, and then if it be the will of God then he will increase your talents or workload and allow you to either do both jobs you were doing for the kingdom or possibly you may be called to that particular work alone. However, you are never to be using your carnal desires or the abilities that God gave to you to usurp another servants work or to try to rally up other servants to support you to help push you into a position, thus sowing discord among the Church. Your attitude and your spirit should be I Don't Want Your Work. I Want My Work with the recognition that some people's work will be the same. For example, the yard work at

than one person at a time can be using a weed eater. But if your ability to use a weed eater is lacking than you shouldn't be trying to be one of the people who is using the weed eater unless you have sought God and the ability given and the person in charge of the yard work allows you to be part of that area of yard work. Instead you should be using your yard work talent where God has given you the ability. Again, you may aspire to one day be the person in charge of the yard work, and some day you might be, but in a different Church. Not because you quit the other one because you didn't get your way, nor because you were to busy trying to work with what wasn't given to you by the Master, but rather at a certain point in your walk with God you may be called to go to another Church maybe because of circumstances of life in which God's hand is in it with you, that takes you to a different Church, and they may very much be in need of someone who can manage the yard work of the Church. I Don't Want Your Work. I Want My Work.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.
20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

When the Son of man gives unto you so many talents according to your "several ability", you do not want to take it lightly. There is work to be done and your work will be judged by the Master of the house. So if you were given 5 talents and the ability to work those 5 talents but worked as if you were only given 2 talents then when the Master comes your work will not match your ability and your talents would not have increased in portion to what was given to you. You want to work as the ability given to you by the Master, the Son of man. If you have 2 talents as the servant of the Master then let it be when the Master of the house returns you can say to the Master, "thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them." This is what we see as we continue to read this parable concerning the servant who received 5 talents, the servant that received 2 talents, and the servant who received 1 talent.

21 His lord said unto him, 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.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, 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.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

Let this not be you! The Son of man will give to you his servant **talents according to your** "**several ability**". Do not let fear or anything stop you from doing the work that Jesus Christ has given to you to do because we are told "And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come." (Lk 19:13) This servant didn't occupy until his Master came. **This servant didn't work according to his ability given**. This servant decided to do whatever he felt like doing which was to be willingly lazy and slothful with his Master's goods.

- 26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:
- 27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.
- 28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.
- 29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.
- 30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The end result of the lazy, slothful servant was to be cast into hellfire because of his wickedness. His talent was given to the person who had 10 talents. This expressly shows you that Jesus Christ didn't teach the ideology of Marxism and force everyone to have equality. "For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always." (Mk 14:7) Jesus, the Master of the house instead says, "For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath." So if your aren't producing then God will take your talent away and give it to someone else faithful who is producing in abundance in which case was the person who already had more talents and "several ability", having 5 talents and gaining 5 more now receiving from his Master, Jesus Christ, 11 talents.

The most important thing you can do for your Master as his servant is to take the talents he has given to you and work them according to your "several ability" of which will bring forth twice the amount given to you according to scripture. Some people may think some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty and that isn't an increase of twice as much. However, taken in context with the verse that this is taken from you will see that this only applied to those who were on the good ground and those on the good ground will be given by the Master of the house the number of talents he desires to give that servant according to their "several ability", and this is why some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. "But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." (Mt 13:23)