

I Know God, Or Do I?

(Matthew 25:14-30)

- Introduction:
1. Many people are absolutely sure about many things, but are dead wrong.
 2. With some situations, this mistake doesn't matter, but with other situations, it does.
 3. When it comes to knowing God, we need to be sure that we truly know him, and have not created a figment of our imagination.
 4. In this lesson, I want you to consider how well you know God.

I. The Setting for the Lesson

- A. The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30).
- B. Take particular notice of what the one talent man said about the master who represents God in this parable (Matthew 25:24).
- C. Is God a "hard man" with unreasonable expectations of us?
- D. The one-talent man said he was, but was he correct in his assessment of God?
- E. I affirm that he did not know what he thought he knew.
 1. The master freely gave (Matthew 25:14).
 2. He gave proportionately (Matthew 25:15).
 3. He rewarded disproportionately (Matthew 25:21, 23).

II. How Well Do We Know God?

- A. Have we imagined a God who honors relationship over obedience?
 1. (2 Chronicles 26).
 2. (1 Samuel 15:22).
- B. Have we imagined a God who values works over faith?
 1. (Ephesians 2:8-10).
 2. We cannot tip the scales in our favor with our good works.
- C. Have we imagined a God who requires perfection over faithfulness?
 1. (1 John 1:7).
 2. (1 John 2:1).

- Conclusion:
1. What about you? Do you know God as well as you thought you knew him?
 2. Whatever you imagined God to be, the reality revealed in God's word is better.
 3. May we all abandon what we thought we knew to embrace what we know the word of God reveals.