

Life Principle Day Thirty:
An eager anticipation of the
Lord's return keeps us living
productively.

Today's Reading
Matthew 25:14-30



As I write this, it is still August. Occasionally, while watching television this summer, shows I have watched were interrupted by advertisements for "The Event." The words have even come up on the screen while the program I have watched was in progress. Now, I have no idea what "The Event" is. But it would seem that through the advertising campaign they are trying to create curiosity and anticipation among potential viewers.

This Hollywood "event," however, will pale in comparison to the divine "event" of Christ's coming. You see, just as Jesus came once to provide sacrifice for sin, so too, He will return- in the air to take away true believers, and then later to the earth to establish His kingdom. Curiosity over this "event" caused disciples in the first century to ask the all-important "when?" question. Christ's response indicated, "No one knows about the day or hour..." (Matt. 24:36) But while the timing may be unclear, the fact that His return will take place is guaranteed.

Christ's plan for us now is that we productively anticipate His return. As in the parable in today's reading, He is like a master who has gone away on a journey. Meanwhile, He has entrusted "talents" to His servants. A "talent" was a specific monetary amount in Christ's day. It is representative, however, of the spiritual gifts, natural abilities, and ministry opportunities that are given to His children even today. Since we do not know the time of the Master's return, we are able, each day, to live and serve productively for Him. Indeed, the day of His return will come. The time will arrive when the pressing question will be, "What have you done with what I have given you?" And then, the opportunity for reward will be afforded.

With such an uncertain amount of time between now and His return, every opportunity is an important one. Keep walking productively now! Those who do are permitted later to "share their master's happiness" (vv. 21, 23).