

# THE HERALD

**Theme: "Striving to Remain Unspotted and Clean, Secure in His Love in 2018!"**

**WOODLAWN FORREST  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1515 N. FORREST ST  
P.O. BOX 1651  
VALDOSTA, GA  
31603-1651**

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**Ministering Evangelist:**  
Leroy Butler, Jr.

**Elders:**

Leroy Butler, Jr.  
Steve A. Myers, Sr.  
James C. Shearry, Sr.

**Deacons:**

Charlie Black  
Alfonso Breeden  
Willie C. Ferrebee  
Harry Howell, Sr.

**Minister of Maturity:**  
Andre R. Norwood

**Ladies Ministry:**  
Gloria A. Butler

**Youth Minister:**  
JaCory L. Sermon

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

7:30am ..... Radio Program  
                                  WHLJ 97.5 FM  
9:45am ..... Bible School  
11:00am ..... Worship  
4:00pm ..... Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00pm ..... Bible Study

**THURSDAY**

7:00pm ..... Ladies Bible Class  
                                  2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> weeks

**SERVICES OFFERED:**

- In-Home Bible Studies
- Private Open Bible Studies at the church building
- Bible Correspondence Courses
- Transportation to and from the services. Call 734-262-0603
- Counseling (marital and personal)

**APRIL:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> - Parent Meeting after Morning Worship.
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Wellness Ministry host Blood Pressure Screenings after Morning Worship.
- 8<sup>th</sup> - WFSECTS Officers after PM Worship.
- 10<sup>th</sup> - WFIG host TNT, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Hospitality Ministry meets, 6:00 p.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Youth Sweet Shop after Bible Study.
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Ladies Bible Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Sunshine Ministry Visitation.
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Meals-On-Wheels Ministry, 10:00 a.m.
- 14<sup>th</sup> - BLG #2 Fellowship, 12:00-3:00 p.m.
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Clothes Closet Ministry Visitation.
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Wellness Ministry meets after Morning Worship in Conference Room.
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Youth Sunday following PM Worship.
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Clothes Closet Ministry meet, 6:00 p.m.
- 21<sup>st</sup> - WFIG Life Class, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 24<sup>th</sup> - WFIG Executive Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Youth sponsors Spaghetti Dinner Fund-raiser after Bible Study.
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Ladies Bible Class, 7:00 p.m.
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Senior Ambassadors Agape Feast. Pantry Ministry host.
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Youth Senior Service Partnership with Pantry Ministry.
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Area 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship. Courtland Avenue in Quitman.

**OUR SICK OR SHUT-IN MEMBERS**

✝ **HOSPITALS & NURSING HOMES:**

S/Edwina **Braswell**, SGMC, Valdosta.  
S/Jessie **Graham**, room B6, Suwannee Valley Nursing Center, 427 15<sup>th</sup> Ave, Jasper FL 32053. BLG #2  
S/Betty **Yearby**, Holly Hill Nursing Home, Valdosta GA. BLG #1

✝ **AT HOME:** (Call before Visiting)

S/Lucinda **Brown**, BLG #4.  
S/Daisy **Fiveash**, BLG #4.  
S/Tarsha **Howell** & son Trace, BLG #2.  
S/Josie **Jackson**, BLG #5.  
S/Jeniece **Myers**, BLG #1.  
S/Yvonne **Rainey**, BLG #1.  
S/Benita & S/Rosa **Settles** BLG #2.  
B/Solomon **Sanders**, BLG #2.  
S/Yvette **Sharp**, BLG #5.  
S/Ruth **Washington**, BLG #5.  
S/Mary **Williams**, BLG #4. ✝

**2018 THEME for  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**



**JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> — 8<sup>th</sup>**

**We still need Adult Help: Kitchen, Teachers, and Security.  
See Brothers, Andre' Norwood or Jacory Sermons.**

# Income Inequality and Our God-Given Abilities

## Why We Can't All Be Pro Athletes

by Dr. Anne Bradley  
March 19, 2018

To best understand what the Bible has to say about income inequality, we need to look at two points: the distribution of gifts and abilities and examples of God's earthly rewards for stewardship within the context of market exchange. We discussed the former last week, and now we will take up the latter.

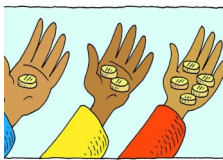
The first place to look in the scriptures is the parable of the talents from Matthew 25:14-30. Below is an excerpt:

*Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.*

Empirical evidence reveals that a diversity in abilities and effort leads to a diversity in income. But, as we can see in this parable, there is also scriptural evidence for income disparity based on diverse abilities.

Although this is a parable, it is neither arbitrary nor capricious. The story and its components are intentional and convey a specific message that can further a biblical perspective on income inequality.

### Applying the Parable of the Talents



There are several key aspects of the parable:

- ◇ Each servant was given different amounts, each *according to his ability*. The master, as an “employer,” divided the bags of gold unequally because he knew each man had a different level of ability to use that gold productively. This is consistent with both how we are created by God (not all of us have the ability to become neurosurgeons, NBA basketball players, or Steve Jobs) and how we are hired and rewarded in the workplace.
- ◇ Scarcity that is exacerbated by the Fall results in our inability to be perfect in all things. Life is bound by trade-offs, and trade-offs represent constraints. If I invest my time going to school to be an accountant, I am, by definition, not doing something else.

◇ This means we can't have absolute advantage in all things, but we can have comparative advantage across some things. The master in the parable understood this and awarded the talents according to his understanding of each person's comparative advantage.

◇ Interestingly, in the parable, we are given no details on what *type* of work they did to invest the master's money. There is no reason to assume it was the same work, especially in light of our understanding of comparative advantage. Scripture is clear that they did not have the same skills, so there is no reason to assume they engaged in the same work to invest the money.

This is the message of the parable: diligently apply the gifts God has given you, and you will be rewarded fully. Those earthly rewards will have different dollar amounts attached to them, but that is not what matters. Obediently applying the gifts you have been given is the call of Christ, even though doing so may carry no earthly financial reward.

No one person has all the talents, or bags of gold. God spreads out talent among the universe, uniquely. This inherent interdependency is part of the human condition—part of our anthropology—and markets are the only known rationing mechanism that allows us to come together to trade and create unprecedented amounts of human prosperity.

God gives us unequal talents, and we need the opportunity to put them to productive use. The rest is up to us. We can choose how we will steward the talents and resources with which we are gifted.

The talents referred to in this parable are a metaphor for the skills and abilities God has given us, in addition to any earthly income we earn through our work. The rewards can be and often are financial, but they mean more than that.

Our God-given gifts and abilities, if pursued with excellence and purpose, allow us to further the kingdom of God by creating opportunities for others through our work.

submitted by Steve A. Myers, Sr.-Elder

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### **\*\* Assigned to Serve in APRIL \*\***

**BAPTISMAL:** Brenda Hardy, Nivea Howell & Debra Martin.

**COMMUNION:** Before service -Sonovia Terrell. After service, Jessica Battles & Chateris Reed. Substitute, Vickey Reed.

**HOSPITALITY GREETERS:** Team Four.

**KITCHEN MONITORS:** Nadine Jackson & Marie Young.

**OPEN & CLOSE BUILDING:** Harry Howell, Sr.

**PANTRY ITEMS:** Canned Beef Stew, Jiffy Cornbread Mix.

**WELLNESS MINISTRY:** Team # 1: Alex Simmons (Leader), Wilma Kitchen, Vanessa Folsom, Velma McGill.

## **Prayer Request & Expressions of Thanks:**

04/01/18

- \*Mrs. Evelyn Dupree asked continued prayer for husband, Otis Dupree, who was still at South Georgia Medical Center. "Pray for him to get better if it's God's will."
- \*Antron Larnard Prime confessed faith in Christ and was Baptized.
- \*B/JaCory Sermons asked prayer for S/Louise Battle. She didn't return to Afternoon Service due to illness. "Please keep her in your prayers".
- \*B/James Shearry asked prayer for elder Steve Myers; he was at home with flu-like symptoms.
- \*S/Ragine Williams confessed sin and asked forgiveness and prayer.

04/04/18

- \*B/Paul Myers for his wife S/Willie Mae, who was scheduled for a procedure in Jacksonville.
- \*S/Shekita Washington, "I want to give thanks to God for granting me favor with my new job. Pray that I Remain focused and proactive pertaining to my job duties."
- \*S/Cynthia Sims asked prayer for the Sims family. Her sister, Shirley Sims was in ICU at South Georgia Medical Center. She was in very bad health, the family asks for the prayers of the church on her behalf.
- \*S/Cynthia Williams asked prayer for S/Lucinda Brown and family in the passing of one of her granddaughters..
- \*Your continued prayers are asked for Mr. Willie Williams, the father of S/Belinda Myers; he's not doing well.
- \*For S/Felicia Bryant in the death of her grandmother, Mrs. Bernice Simmons of Townsend, GA.
- \*Pray for S/Ruth Davis in the passing of B/Leroy Davis in Jacksonville, FL (former members).

📄 CARD RECEIVED: "Jesus is the Joy of Easter". Brothers and Sisters, At Easter and always, let's rejoice in the love of the Beautiful Savior who calls us His own. Have a Blessed Day. God bless you all, Love you, Sis. Josie Jackson. ■

### **\*\* Brotherhood News/Area Events \*\***

📅 Today, April 8-11<sup>th</sup>, **Homecoming Gospel Meeting** at West Hill Church of Christ here in the city. Sunday 9:30 am. Bible School, 11:00 a.m. Worship, dinner served immediately following Morning Worship, 2:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship. Services Monday through Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Bro. J.K. Hamilton, Church of Christ at Mountain View, Dallas TX.

▶ April 21-25<sup>th</sup>, **Annual Homecoming and Gospel Meeting** Sweetwater Church of Christ, 7009 Wilson Blvd, Jacksonville, FL. Theme: "*Equipping Disciples and Healing Families in 2018*". Host Minister, Bro. Richard Coffey, Sr.; Guest Minister, Bro. Johnny Thomas, Sr. (Blue Hill Church of Christ, Mattapan, MA). Community Day on Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Gospel Sign-out at 5:00 p.m. (*featuring Voices of Harmony, Total Praise, Halal, Rejoice, All for God, Majestic Voices, Sounds of Praise, Northside Mass, Lake City Mass, and New Direction*). Sunday Services 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. Gospel Meeting, 7:00 p.m. nightly.

▶ April 28-May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Annual Spring **Revival Meeting & Gospel Songfest**, Northside Church of Christ, 378 NW Gibson Lane, Lake City FL. Theme, "*Great Is Our God*", *Psalms 147:5*. Guest Speaker, Bro. Xerxes Snell, Minister of Ninth Street Church of Christ in Winter Garden, FL. Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup>, Acapella Concert at 6:00 p.m., Sunday is 'Bring Your Neighbor Day'. Bible School 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:00 a.m., Dinner 12:30 p.m., Worship 2:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Revival begins 7:00 p.m. For more information call 386-755-0393, or email secretary.nscoc@gmail.com

▶ May 6-9<sup>th</sup>, the Church of Christ at 411 Gaines Avenue in Albany, GA (*formerly River Road Church of Christ*) invites you to their **Homecoming Celebration and Gospel Meeting**. Bro. Jack Evans, Jr. of the Rockhill Church of Christ in Frisco, Texas will be the guest evangelist. Theme, "*Improving Our Serve*" (*Acts 2:47*). Bible Class 9:30am, Worship 10:45am then Lunch. At 2:30 p.m. they will hold an **Ordainment Service** for their new Minister, William Joseph Godfrey. The Gospel Meeting nightly will begin at 7:00 p.m.

▶ May 19-24<sup>th</sup>, **2018 National Lectureship** hosted by the Church of Christ at Carver Road (Winston-Salem, NC), with the Church of Christ of the Triad (Greensboro, Highpoint, and Winston-Salem, NC). Host Minister B/Jefferson Caruthers. Theme, "*Runners To Your Marks! Hebrews 12:1-2*". Held at Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, NC. Go to [www.cocnl2018.com](http://www.cocnl2018.com)

▶ May 26<sup>th</sup>, **Retirement Celebration** in honor of Roosevelt & Sarah Johnson, Minister of Liberty City Church of Christ in Savannah, GA. The event is at 5:00 p.m., Tickets are \$30 per adult, and \$15 per child age 12 & under. Deadline, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Questions contact Felicia Petit-Frere at 912-236-3201.

▶ October 1-4<sup>th</sup>, the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual **Southeastern Lectureship**, held at the Jackson Marriott Hotel in Jackson, Mississippi. Host congregation, West Oak Grove Church of Christ in Hernando MS where Bro. Terry D. Wallace, Sr. is the minister. Theme, "*My Inner Me Is My Enemy*", *Romans 7:18-20*. Register online at [www.westoakgrovecoc.com](http://www.westoakgrovecoc.com) ♦

🌸 🌸 🌸 **Ladies' Corner**

🌸 May 5<sup>th</sup>, Northside Church of Christ in Jacksonville, FL presents their 40<sup>th</sup> Annual **Ladies Inspirational Day**. Theme: *"The War is Real and So is the Victory"* (1 Corinthians 15:57-58; 1 John 5:4). Speakers, Melanie Joyce Johnson, Suitland Road Church of Christ (Suitland, MD) and Deborah Cooper, Northside (Jacksonville). Registration Fees, \$25 ages 18 and over, \$12 ages 10-17. Registration/Breakfast/Meet & Greet, 8:00-9:00 a.m., Program 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., Lunch 1:00-2:00 p.m. Vendor Space available, \$35.00. Colors: Purple, Green, & Gold. Questions or Concerns, contact Jerry Harper @ 904-302-0772, Natasha Jackson @ 904-418-3574, Tisha Rock @ 904-765-9830.

🌸 SAVE-THE-DATE: August 18<sup>th</sup>, Church of Christ at Bouldercrest, Atlanta GA , **Ladies' Inspirational Day**. Theme, *"In the Pursuit of Holiness"* (1 Peter 1:13-16). Registration/Continental Breakfast 8:00am, Devotion/Program at 9:00 a.m. For information and Registration, go to [www.bouldercrestcoc.com](http://www.bouldercrestcoc.com)

🌸 SAVE-THE-DATE: October 27<sup>th</sup>, for **Ladies Day** to be held at the Newsome Street Church of Christ, Hahira GA.

**YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS & NOTES**

☺ April 27-29<sup>th</sup>, **Youth Explosion** at the Hillcrest Church of Christ in Decatur GA. Theme, *"Snapchat Dat Grace"* taken from Titus 2:11-14. Guest speaker, Bro. Al Jackson-Minister, Jacksonville FL. Cost of Registration is \$35 per person (ages 3 and up), which includes T-shirt, meals and fun events on Friday evening and all day Saturday. For information contact Bro. Torian Salary, Youth Minister at 389-562-3526 or email [youthminister@hillcrestcoc.net](mailto:youthminister@hillcrestcoc.net)



☺ June 27-30<sup>th</sup>, **Florida State Youth Conference**, Jacksonville, FL. Theme, *"Let's Take A Selfie"* (2 Corinthians 13:5—"Examine Yourselves..."). Registration, \$50 ages 3-5, \$100 ages 6 & up. Make all checks to Phileo Outreach; Mail Payments and/or Deposits to: Hallendale Beach Church of Christ, 305 N. Dixie Highway, Hallendale Beach FL 33009. Accommodations, Doubletree by Hilton, \$105 per night.

☺ Start planning to attend the **41<sup>st</sup> Annual Southeastern Youth for Christ Conference** at Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA, July 16-20, 2018. Theme: *"Up Into The Mountain: Life Teachings from the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:1"*. Registration, non-refundable deposit of \$50 due by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Regular Registration ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. Fees are: 5-years & below= \$125, 6-12 years= \$280; 13-17 years= \$300, 18 & up=\$325. For more information call 1-888-YOUTH77. ☺

Let the Record Speak		
		2017 * 2018
Baptisms		11 2
PL Membership/Restored		17 11
	Goal	04/01/18
9:45 a.m. Bible School	200	87
11:00 a.m. Worship	300	243
4:00 p.m. Worship	200	45
Midweek Bible Study	200	115

**What We Believe and Why We Believe It**

We believe that the Bible is the all sufficient guide for man's salvation. (II Peter 1:3)

We believe that the Bible must be rightly divided to be understood. (II Timothy 2:15, 3:16)

We believe that the Church of Christ is the only true church. (Matthew 16:18, Acts 10:38, Romans 16:16)

We believe salvation is in Christ (II Timothy 2:10, 3:15); and no one can get in Christ by praying.

We believe baptism in water by immersion is the only way one can get into Christ. (Galatians 3:27)

We believe denominationalism is contrary to Bible teaching. (Matthew 17:7-9, Colossians 2:20-23)

We believe that there is only one gospel. (Galatians 1:6-10) It is God's power to save. (Romans 1:16-17)

We believe the church began on the day of Pentecost and three thousand souls were added. (Acts chapter 2)

We believe in order for a sinner to be saved he must hear the gospel. (Romans 10:17, Matthew 17:5)

We believe one must believe the gospel. (John 8:24, Hebrews 11:6, Mark 16:15-16, Romans 10:10, John 7:38)

We believe one must repent of his sins. (Acts 17:30, Acts 3:10, Acts 2:38)

We believe you must confess Christ (Matthew 10:32); be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).



**Woodlawn's Limerick**

I am a Vital Link in God's Love Connection,  
 Worshipping and Witnessing to show my Affection,  
 Working and Serving so that my Light will Shine,  
 Walking Circumspect so as to Redeem the Time,  
 I am a Vital Link in God's Love Connection.