

**Readings from Matthew chapter 25—April 24<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

<sup>14</sup> “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. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup> And likewise he who *had received* two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ <sup>21</sup> His lord said to him, ‘Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>22</sup> He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ <sup>23</sup> His lord said to him, ‘Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’”

**Sunday:** **What is the kingdom of heaven?** **Pray** that God would bless the outreach of those in Rochester (East Rochester, N.Y.) RPC with fruit as His Spirit opens hearts to believe and trust in Christ alone for their salvation. **Pray** for Rev. Kenneth Stewart, being installed tomorrow at Stornoway (Scotland) RPC.

**Monday:** **A talent is a huge sum of money. Why did the man give different amounts to the three servants?** **Pray** for the Lord’s protection and nourishment of Providence (Pittsburgh, Pa.) RPC’s covenant children. **Pray** for blessing upon our outreach efforts in Atlanta.

**Tuesday:** **What is the meaning of the man going on a long journey?** **Pray** that God would raise up laborers to join the work in South Sudan and Central Asia. **Pray** for a suitable meeting place for Gateway (Derry, Northern Ireland) RPC.

**Wednesday:** **What is being symbolized by the gain in talents?** **Give thanks** with Westminster, Colo., RPC for wonderful preaching from various pastors over the past year and a half they spent without a pastor, and for the sacrificial service by their interim moderator, Pastor Joseph Friedly. **Pray** for the raising up of elders, deacons, and teachers at Higashisuma (Kobe, Japan) RPC.

**Thursday:** **What is the reward for faithfulness?** **Pray** for comfort for the family, friends, and colleagues of Geneva College business professor Gary VanderPlaats, who passed away at the end of 2021. **Pray** for Cloughmills (Northern Ireland) RPC and its ministry to youth.

**Friday:** **What is meant by the phrase, “Well done, good and faithful servant”?** **Pray** that the Lord would challenge Orlando, Fla., RPC in their commitment to Him. **Pray** for McKinnon (Australia) RPC to grow by ten this year.

**Saturday:** **What does it mean to enter into the joy of the Lord?** **Pray** that the

Lord would make Grace (State College, Pa.) increase and abound in love toward one another (1 Thess. 3:12). **Pray** for the service tomorrow at Atlanta RPC.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

*The Lord’s Day*

*April 24, 2022*

Meeting every week at

574 Western Avenue

(corner of Western and Walnut Street)

Atlanta, Georgia

Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

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*https://atlanta-rpc.org*  
*(770)241-3946*

## Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship

Psalm 65:1

\*The Invocation

\*Psalm 96A

“O Sing a New Song to the Lord”

Scripture Reading

Romans 6:1-14

Pastoral Prayer

\*Psalm 2

“Why Do Heathen Nations

Rage?”

Scripture Text

II Corinthians 5

The Sermon

“New Creation in Christ”

\*Prayer

\*Psalm 144D

“O God, in Praise to You”

The Taking of Vows of Church Membership

*Felson Lee Harden*

\*Psalm 149 “O Praise the Lord! O Sing Aloud a New Song to the Lord”

\*Benediction

\*Psalm 150B

“Praise the Lord! Praise God in His Sanctuary”

\* *Congregation will please stand.*

*We are so glad that you could join us today!* Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

### Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

**“And one cried unto another and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.”—*Isaiah 6:3*. “Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.”—*Psalm 51:13*. “Remove not the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.”—*Proverbs 22:28*.**

**Q. 1 *What is the chief end of man?* A. Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.**

**Q. 2 *What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?* A. The word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how to glorify and enjoy him.**

**Q. 3 *What do the Scriptures principally teach?* A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.**

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***For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.***

“New Creation in Christ” II Corinthians 5:17

Theme: Union with Christ implies a new creation.

I. Union with Christ

A. The doctrine—rooted in election; total identity with Christ

B. The conditional statement here

1. If anyone is in union with Christ, he is a new creation
2. If anyone anywhere has experienced this union, it’s evidence that a great power is at work in the cosmos

II. New Creation

A. As a Scripture theme

B. Subjectively

1. Negatively—v. 16: no longer do we know Christ after the flesh
2. Positively—v. 15: that we should live for Him
  - a. Change in one’s appetites (I Peter 4:3f)
  - b. Keeping the law of God—Ezekiel 36:27; Psalm 119:97

- c. Love for Christ (v. 14)
- d. Zeal for God's glory (v. 13a)
- e. Concern for the church (v. 13b)—Psalm 122:1; Hebrews 10:25
- f. Evangelistic passion (v. 11)—knowing the terror of the Lord

#### C. Objectively

- 1. Reconciliation—the basis of the new creation
- 2. Objective reality of a new creation
  - a. “there is a new creation”—this vital, dynamic power that is reverberating throughout and affecting all of creation
  - b. New aeon—dynamic breakthrough of heaven's power/grace

- c. New covenant/new testament

#### D. Overview

- 1. God's creative power and the proof that it's at work
- 2. *Novus ordo seclorum* (“New World Order”)

#### Application

- A. You must experience this new creation—it's essential
- B. Therefore, I urge you, as did Paul, to be reconciled to God