

The time is moving fast, & so for my last point I must be very very brief. It is very important: the sad case of those who bury their talent. How many of us do it. We bury the talent in the earth. We don't make success immediately on it and we say "That's not for me." Instead of giving it a fair trial and pushing ahead. We bury the talent. We leave it there. We give it up.

I've known so many people graduates of--not of this seminary but of other seminaries who have gone into a pastorate for 2 or 3 years and have decided, "That's not for me" and have gone on into something else. These particular people, at least 3/4 of them, if they had gone in (determined to succeed and determined to find out where they were not making the progress they should, and to find new methods of doing it, I feel sure they would have succeeded.

As we are told in the parable in 1 Kings, as thy servant was busy here and there he was gone. If we come up before the Lord and he says, I gave you these talents, what did you do with them? I buried them; I kept it safe. The Lord doesn't want us to keep it safe; he wants us to use it. He wants us to use the talents He has given us to accomplish for Him.

May the Lord enable each one of us to truly prosper in His service that when our time comes to go to be with Him we won't (disturbance) we deserved nothing from him. It's wonderful what He's done for us. But may it be that he can also say, Well done, Good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Let us pray.

Oh God our Father help us not to bury our talents but to use them. Help us not to be satisfied with common ordinary ways of doing things but to find the best ways. Help us to not be satisfied with what some commentator says about a verse, but to get into it and see what's really there. Help us to gather the facts and ideas. Then help us to judge them wisely and see the errors, and see why they should go in other directions. Help us to see as you desire that our lives may be able to accomplish that which is your purpose while you leave us here on this earth. We ask it in Jesus' Name. Amen.

(Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page)