

O The Distracted Church

Luke 19:11-27

Background: Jesus tells this parable while in Jericho, where the summer palace of Archelaus, son of Herod the Great, lived. When Herod died, Archelaus traveled to Rome to be crowned king of Judea. The Jews sent a delegation begging Caesar not to make him king. When Archelaus returned home he had everyone in the Jewish delegation put to death.

Introduction: What we see in his parable (similar to the one in Matthew 25:14-30) is the difference between growing Christians (churches) and distracted Christians (churches). What is it that helps a church to grow? What does God need from us to get (ROI-Return On Investment)?

Notice: Jesus is not concerned with size or talent of the churches. He is concerned with their actions and faith.

Distracted Churches		Growing Churches
Are Angry, v. 14	IN SERMONS 1 Peter 3:15	Are Focused, v. 16, 18
Are Afraid	IN BUDGETS 2 Cor. 5:7	Are Busy
Are Defensive (Just Keeping House)	IN OUTREACH Phil. 3:13	Use What They Have (Reaching Out)
Blame Others, v. 20-21	IN FELLOWSHIP Mt. 7:3-5	Follow God, v. 16, 18
Will Be Destroyed, v. 26-27	IN DESTINY Proverbs 3:5-6	Will Flourish, v. 17-18