Scripture

Matthew 25:14-30 (NRSV)

The Parable of the Bags of Gold

14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey,
who called his servants and entrusted his
wealth to them. **15** To one he gave five bags of
gold, to another two bags, and to another one
bag,[a] each according to his ability. Then he
went on his journey. **16** The man who had
received five bags of gold went at once and
put his money to work and gained five bags
more. **17** So also, the one with two bags of
gold gained two more.

18 But the man who had received one bag went off,
dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's
money.

19 "After a long time the master of those servants
returned and settled accounts with them. **20** The
man who had received five bags of gold brought
the other five. '*Master*,' he said, '*you entrusted me
with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five
more*.'

21 "His master replied, '*Well done, good and faithful
servant*! *You have been faithful with a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things. Come and
share your master's happiness*!'

22 “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘*Master,*’ he said, ‘*you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more*.’

23 “His master replied, ‘*Well done, good and faithful servant*! *You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness*!’

24 “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘*Master*,’ he said, ‘*I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.* **25** *So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.*’

26 “His master replied, ‘*You wicked, lazy servant!*
So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown
and gather where I have not scattered seed? **27**
Well then, you should have put my money on
deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I
would have received it back with interest.

28 *“‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to*
the one who has ten bags. **29** *For whoever has*
will be given more, and they will have an
abundance. Whoever does not have, even what
they have will be taken from them. ***30*** *And throw*
that worthless servant outside, into the darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.’