

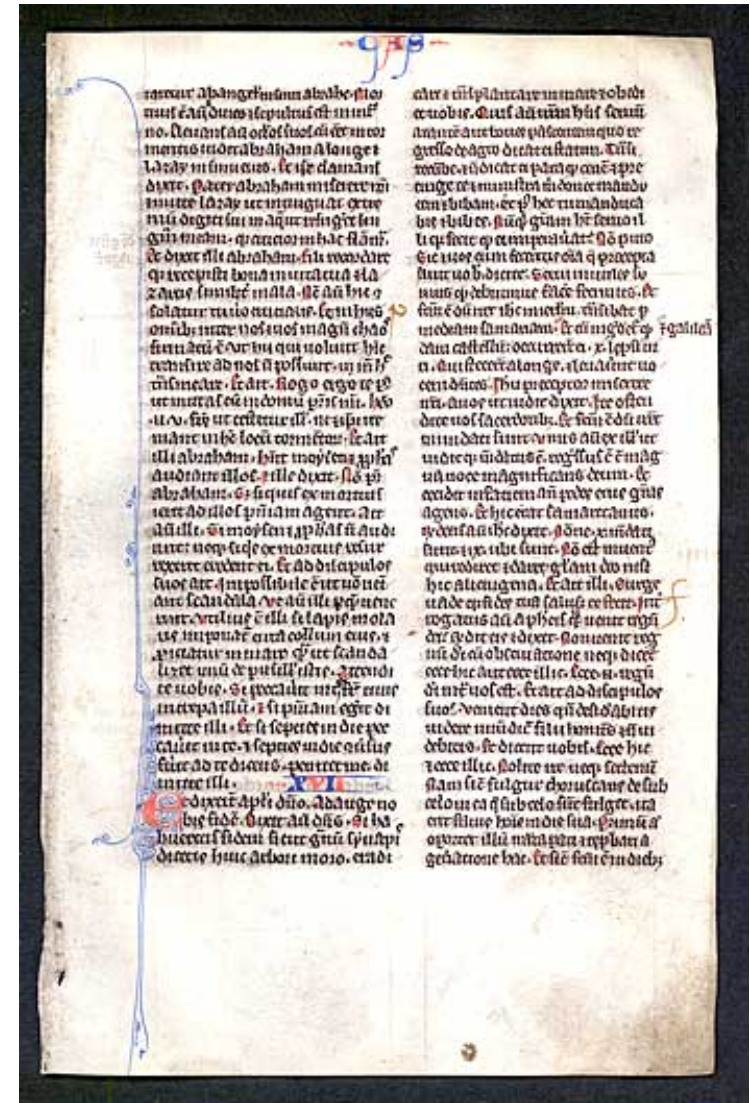
In what way does God value our service? How are we to understand his role as master? (See John 13:6-16.)

What then makes us unworthy servants? (See also Mt. 5:48)

It is said that the test of your “servant heart” is not in how well you do your duty, but in how your heart responds when you are treated like a servant. Examine your own heart. Do you often find that you expect God or God’s people to notice your service or reward you for your service to his church? Are you ever resentful when you find your service is not noticed, or if you are not properly thanked?

Nevertheless, God does give us a reward as his children. What is the reward that we can expect?

Kingdom Character – Faith The Mustard Seed, & the Obedient Servant



Luke 17, page from a French Bible, 1260

Read Luke 17:1-10

Study Questions:

Place this parable in context. Jesus begins a discussion with his disciples with a warning (vv. 1-3a) and a command (vv. 3b-4). What are they? Who do you think “these little ones” refer to?

How do the apostles respond to Jesus’ words (v. 5)? How does their question follow from Jesus’ command?

How does Jesus’ illustration of the mustard seed (v. 6) answer the apostles’ question? What does it demonstrate about the nature of Kingdom faith? (See Matthew 17:14-20; Hebrews 12:2.)

Jesus elaborates his teaching on faith through the parable of the obedient servant (vv. 7-10). Put the parable into your own words. What is Jesus teaching about?

In the parable who is the character that we stand for? Who is the master? What does this parable teach us about the nature of kingdom service?

Why does Jesus tell us to say, “We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty” (v. 10)? In what way is that true?

This parable gives us a picture of the normal relationship between masters and servants in the first century context. Now read Luke 12:35-38. Compare the situation of the servants in this passage with that of the servant from our parable. Why the difference?

What comfort can we derive from the picture of the servants at the wedding feast? How does this hope encourage and embolden our present service?