

## Are You Really As You See Yourself?

### I. Introduction:

A. In what is known as the Parable of the Talents, the servants were given responsibility according to their “several ability” [own ability] (**Matthew 25:15**).

1. The point being, the servant was expected to do what each individual was capable of doing (**Luke 12:41-48**).
2. Timothy was told to guard what was committed to his trust (**I Timothy 6:20**; cf. **II Timothy 1:13**).

B. Of course, we examine ourselves to measure our faithfulness (**I Corinthians 11:23-31** and **II Corinthians 13:5**).

1. That’s not the only reason we examine ourselves though (i.e. **Galatians 6:4-5**).
2. Doing the work of a Christian requires you to know what you are capable of doing (**I Peter 4:8-11**).

### II. Body: Measuring Correctly (**II Corinthians 10:7-18**).

A. There are those that are puffed up because of their carnal mindedness (**Colossians 2:18**).

1. Amaziah, king of Judah, is an example of someone who thought he was able to do more than he could and then was humbled (**II Chronicles 25:17-24**).
2. There are those that get puffed up and overstate their case (**Matthew 26:35**; cf. **Matthew 26:55-56**).
3. Those that will proclaim their own goodness (**Proverbs 20:6**).
4. Those people will be humbled (**Proverbs 29:23** and **Matthew 23:1-12**).
  - a. Likely, at some point in this life (i.e. **II Chronicles 33:21-24**).
  - b. If not, for sure in the Judgment to come (**Romans 14:10-11**).
5. So, just don’t think of yourself more highly than you ought to (**Romans 12:3** and **Galatians 6:3**).
6. By the way, the more capable ones are the greatest servants (**Mark 10:35-45** and **I Corinthians 3:5-9**).

B. Like Moses, there are those that think too lowly of themselves (**Exodus 3:11**; **4:1**; **4:10**).

1. Listen, Moses angered God because of his continual lack of confidence and his excuses (**Exodus 4:14**).
2. Jeremiah thought himself incapable (**Jeremiah 1:6-7**).
3. God is not going to directly talk to you like He did those prophets. So, you have to reach within to exercise the confidence we have through faith in Christ (**Ephesians 3:12**).
4. If you are righteous, be bold (**Proverbs 28:1**)!

C. When you see yourself truly as you are, if what you see is not what it should be, make the appropriate changes. Don't ignore what you see (**James 1:21-25**).

1. If you have exalted yourself above your abilities or have a mentality of arrogance and pride, humble yourself before you are humbled (**I Peter 5:5-6**).

2. If you are torn down, beaten up, too lowly, or worn down from correction; get up (**Hebrews 12:11-13**).

3. If you have convinced yourself that you are something you are not, allow someone else to help you see who you really are (**Proverbs 18:17**).

4. All of us need to allow the Lord to be our confidence (**Proverbs 3:26**) and balance aright what we ourselves can do.

5. Apart from Jesus, your "good works" are useless (**John 15:1-8**).

III. Conclusion: There has never been a greater person on earth than the King of kings. Neither has there ever been a more humble man than He. Think about how He approached life in this world (**John 5:30**).