The Servant Who Held His Own  
Luke 19:12-27

Introduction:
A. Parable of Minas (or pounds) different but similar to parable of talents.  
B. Third servant to be commended for some things.
1. Had become the servant of a nobleman (v. 12).
2. Respected the power and position of his master (vv. 21-22).
3. Tenderly cared for mina and did not waste it in on riotous living.
C. Third servant had two all-too-common faults.
1. Ruled by fear rather than faith. – Master said “do business” (v. 13).
2. Content to “hold his own” (v. 23) – Did not do so in judgment (vv. 24-26).
D. Third servant can teach us individually and congregationally two important lessons.

Discussion:
I. The Importance of Being Protective of the Lord’s Way.
A. Guard it with godly jealousy (2 Cor. 11:1-4).
1. Against all opposition. (1 Tim. 6:20; Jude 3, Phil. 1:17)
2. Against all deception. (Eph. 4:14, 15)
3. Against division and faction. (Eph. 4:1-3; 2:12-18; Tit. 3:10; Rom. 16:17-18).
B. Guard against erosion from within (cf. 1 Cor. 5:7).
1. Against relaxing high moral and ethical standards from within.
2. Against our zeal for worship and work cooling by degrees.
3. Against losing appetite for strong teaching and preaching. (2 Tim. 2:2-4).

II. The Importance of Being Productive in the Lord’s Way.
A. Cannot be content to just protect what we have and just hold our own.
1. Relax when reach certain level: Property paid for, able to post good numbers.
2. Relax when certain level of knowledge is reached.
B. Cannot “level-off” in our need and desire to grow. (Phil. 3:13-14).
1. Always more souls to be saved. (Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:47; 8:4).
2. Always more knowledge and wisdom to be gained (2 Pet. 3:18).
3. Always more work to be done. (1 Cor. 15:58).
4. Always more maturity to be reached. (2 Cor. 4:16).
5. Always more problems to be solved. (1 Cor. 11:19).

Conclusion:
A. Let us guard everything that God has entrusted into our hands.
B. Let us not be content just to guard it, but put it to use.
C. Let us become the Master’s servants. (Cf. Rom. 16:16-18).