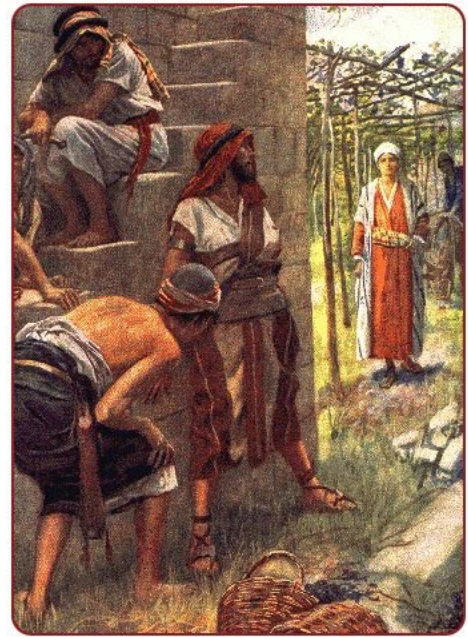


Matthew 24.45-51

The Two Servants

New Living Translation (NLT)

45 "A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. **46** If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. **47** I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns. **48** But what if the servant is evil and thinks, 'My master won't be back for a while,' **49** and he begins beating the other servants, partying, and getting drunk? **50** The master will return unannounced and unexpected, **51** and he will cut the servant to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.



The Message Paraphrase (MSG)

45-47 "Who here qualifies for the job of overseeing the kitchen? A person the Master can depend on to feed the workers on time each day. Someone the Master can drop in on unannounced and always find him doing his job. A God-blessed man or woman, I tell you. It won't be long before the Master will put this person in charge of the whole operation.

48-51 "But if that person only looks out for himself, and the minute the Master is away does what he pleases—abusing the help and throwing drunken parties for his friends—the Master is going to show up when he least expects it and make hash of him. He'll end up in the dump with the hypocrites, out in the cold shivering, teeth chattering."

The Passion Translation (TPT)

45 "Who is the one qualified to oversee the master's house? He will be a reliable servant who is wise and faithful, one he can depend on. The master will want to give him the responsibility of overseeing others in his house, for his servant will lead them well and give them food at the right time. **46** What joy and blessing will come to that faithful servant when the master comes home to find him serving with excellence!

47 I can promise you, the master will raise him up and put him in charge of all that he owns.

48 "But the evil servant says in his heart, 'My master delays his coming, and who knows when he will return?' *And because of the delay, the servant mistreats those in his master's household. Instead of caring for the ones he was appointed to serve,*

49 he abuses the other servants and gives himself over to eating and drinking with drunkards. **50** Let me tell you what will happen to him. His master will suddenly return at a time that surprises him, and he will remove the abusive, selfish servant from his position of trust. **51** And the master will cut him in two and assign him to the place of great sorrow and anguish along with all the other pretenders and unbelievers."