

## “SOCIALISM, CAPITALISM & THE KINGDOM OF GOD - PART 2”

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**REVIEW/INTRO:** The current political battle is largely about socialism vs. capitalism, neither of which can truly reflect the kingdom of God if not submitted to God!

**Socialism** – the government controls most everything, including production and distribution of goods.

**Capitalism** - the production of goods and services is based on supply and demand in a free market. From a kingdom of God perspective, we should take personal responsibility to care and provide for ourselves, be generous towards the poor and those unable to take care of themselves, and avoid selfishness, greed and taking advantage of others.

### **I. THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS (Matt. 25:1-13).**

The wise virgins refused to give any of their oil to the foolish virgins (v. 9). If they shared their oil with the foolish, they would all run out.

- A. Unexpected delays in life should be prepared for.
- B. Wise people take responsibility to care for themselves while foolish people expect others to take care of them.
- C. Wise people discern when to share their resources and when not to share their resources (vv. 31-46)!

### **II. THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS (Matt. 25:14-30).**

- A. Their economy allowed for economic diversity.
- B. There was no expectation of equal distribution of wealth.
- C. They were each free to invest as they saw fit.
- D. They were rewarded according to their stewardship.
- E. In kingdom economy, both abundance and lack each produce after their own kind (v. 29).

### **III. THE SEPARATION OF SHEEP & GOATS (Matt. 25:31-46).**

- A. The dividing line between the sheep and the goats is their personal caring for the truly needy (vv. 34-46).
- B. Jesus takes personally how you and I personally treat the needy (vv. 40, 45).
- C. Capitalism must guard against greed and using people, and should willingly use resources to care for the needy