Parable of the Talents – Supplemental Sheet – The Process Steps Used Transactionally

Yes—when viewed through the lens of your **7-step *Process Brings Peace* framework**, the *Parable of the Talents* beautifully illustrates the **progress or breakdown** of the spiritual journey for professing servants of Christ.

Below is a breakdown showing how **each servant** either follows or resists the process:

**🔶 The Faithful Servants (5-Talent and 2-Talent)**

These represent **genuine believers** who walk through the process:

**Step 1: The Cross – Recognizing the Master**

They recognize the Master’s ownership and **receive** what is entrusted to them (their talents/gifts). They begin with a relationship of **faith and trust**, not fear.

*“He called his own servants and entrusted his property to them…”* (v.14)

**Step 2: The Tomb – Dying to Self**

They take **responsibility** and do not bury their talent. This suggests a surrender of comfort, fear, or laziness. Their willingness to risk shows a **death to self**.

**Step 3: The Resurrection – New Purpose**

Their work produces **increase**—a sign of **fruitfulness** and walking in **resurrected purpose**. They’re active, not idle.

*“He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them…”* (v.16)

**Step 4: Revelation – Clarity and Affirmation**

Their actions reveal their **understanding** of the Master’s will. They saw value in what He gave, and their lives reflect trust, insight, and obedience.

**Step 5: Mercy – Enter the Joy**

They don’t boast. Their reward is **grace**, not entitlement. They are told to *“enter into the joy of your master”*—a picture of the **unearned mercy** of eternal life.

**Step 6: Clear Conscience – “Well Done”**

They receive the **public commendation** of God—*“Well done, good and faithful servant.”* Their consciences are **clear**, having used their lives purposefully.

**Step 7: Inheritance – Greater Responsibility**

They are **entrusted with more**. Faithfulness in the small leads to greater **kingdom inheritance**:

*“You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.”* (v.21)

**🔻 The Unfaithful Servant (1-Talent)**

This one **resists the process** and shows signs of false conversion or self-deception:

**Step 1: The Cross – Rejection**

Though he is called a “servant,” he doesn’t **know** or trust the Master. He views Him as *“a hard man”*—his heart is not changed.

**Step 2: The Tomb – No Surrender**

Rather than dying to fear or pride, he **buries** the talent. This shows **self-preservation**, not surrender. He avoids risk, growth, and obedience.

**Step 3: No Resurrection**

There is **no increase**, no fruit, no transformation. He remained in a kind of spiritual death.

**Step 4: No Revelation**

His response shows **no understanding** of the Master’s will. His false perception of God leads to **accusation** rather than relationship.

**Step 5: No Mercy**

Instead of receiving mercy, he is **cast into outer darkness**. His judgment reflects a heart that never **truly belonged**.

**Step 6: No Peace or Conscience**

The Master calls him **wicked and lazy**. There’s no approval—only conviction. His conscience is exposed.

**Step 7: No Inheritance**

He **loses** what little he had. He does not inherit anything in the kingdom. This fits Jesus’ statement:

*“To everyone who has, more will be given... but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”* (v.29)

**🧭 Summary Table**

| **Step** | **Faithful Servants** | **Unfaithful Servant** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Cross | Received gifts with trust | Viewed God as harsh |
| 2. Tomb | Died to self, took risks | Buried the gift in fear |
| 3. Resurrection | Produced fruit | No growth or increase |
| 4. Revelation | Understood God’s purpose | Misunderstood the Master |
| 5. Mercy | Welcomed into joy | Rejected, judged |
| 6. Clear Conscience | “Well done” commendation | Called wicked, lazy |
| 7. Inheritance | Entrusted with more | Lost everything |

**💬 Application**

**God gives everyone something**, but only those who **trust Him and walk through the process** can enter the joy of the Lord. Even those with “less” can be just as faithful.