



GIFTS FROM GOD

BY

ALAN YOUNG

CAST OF CHARACTERS

PAUL	(SERVANT)	–	JAMIE	(ACTS 1/2/5/7)
JOHN	(SERVANT)	–	ALAN	(ACTS 1/2/6/7)
JOSEPH	(SERVANT)	–	MICHAEL	(ACTS 1/2/4/7)
MASTER		–	NICK	(ACTS 2/7)
SUSAN	(MASTER'S COOK)	–	MARIA	(ACTS 2/3/6)
AGNES	(SUSAN'S FRIEND)	–	MERYL	(ACTS 2/6)
SIMON	(SERVANT)	–	RHETT	(ACTS 3/6)
ANDREW	(FARMER)	–	CHRIS	(ACTS 4/5)
BANKER		–	MARTIN	(ACT 5)
MARK	(AGNES' BROTHER)	–	DANA	(ACT 6)

ACT 1

(Paul walks in)

PAUL: I've finished...

JOHN: You can't have...

PAUL: All done...

JOHN: You've cleaned both rooms?

(Paul nods)

JOHN: And I'm sure you've done a really good job...

PAUL: I hope our Master thinks so....

JOHN: You haven't told him yet?....

(Paul shakes his head)

JOHN: I'm sure he'll think so...he's always pleased with the job you do...

PAUL: I always try and do my best....

JOHN: And your best is better than any other servant...

PAUL: I don't know about that...

JOHN: He's told you more than once, Paul...I've heard him tell you...

PAUL: You do a good job, too, John...

(John smiles)

PAUL: Anyway, it's the least I can do...

JOHN: Why do you say that?

PAUL: Where would I be without our Master?...I would still be roaming the streets...I would still be begging for food...

JOHN: And that was after you left the family you were living with.....

(Paul nods)

PAUL: I hoped I could stay with them. The mother and father were very kind to me but their children couldn't understand why they would give love to a child that wasn't theirs...so I knew I had to leave.

JOHN: Do you think the children were being selfish?

PAUL: Yes, to begin with....and then I thought I can't expect them to feel sorry for me...

JOHN: I'm sure their parents would have told them why they had taken you in....

(Paul nods)

PAUL: But then I put myself in their shoes....would I want anything to come between me and the love from my parents?...

JOHN: I'm sure I didn't when I was child....

PAUL: Really? You've got a good memory...

JOHN: I'm not that old....

PAUL: Who said you were, John?...

JOHN: It does make me think, though, how we take certain things for granted...especially if we think they will always be there...

PAUL: Are you thinking of your parents?

(John nods)

PAUL: Do you think you took them for granted?

JOHN: I probably did....

PAUL: How?

JOHN: In the same way most children do...by assuming they will always be there...when you wake up in the morning, when you go to bed at night...

PAUL: But that's normal...

JOHN: Of course it is...but by taking someone or something for granted can only lead to disappointment. Everything changes over time.

PAUL: So what should you do?

JOHN: You have to learn to appreciate what you have before time makes you appreciate what you had....

PAUL: I can only be grateful for the job I have and the roof over my head...

JOHN: I know you are, but why aren't you bitter and resentful? No one would be surprised if you were, not after what you've been through..
... ..

PAUL: How can I be like that when I want to make the most out of my life?... I couldn't just sit and feel sorry for myself...I was thinking of what I could do....If you don't look ahead, you stay behind.....

JOHN: You still enjoy working for the Master?...

(Paul nods)

PAUL: I'm learning different things from him...and it's really good working and talking to you...and Joseph, too...I enjoy being with older people...

JOHN: If you say one more thing about my age...

(Joseph rushes in)

JOSEPH: John! Paul!

JOHN: Hello John...Is everything alright?

JOSEPH: The Master wants to see us... all of us...

PAUL:: Did he say why?

JOSEPH: No, he didn't....Come on...

(Joseph, John and Paul leave quickly)

ACT 2

(Paul, John and Joseph walk in)

MASTER: There you are....be seated.....I have received news that my brother is very sick....so I am going to see him....I don't know how long I will be away....

JOHN: Did you want one of us to go with you, Master?

MASTER: No, it is best that all of you stay...

JOSEPH: Are you going on your own, Master?

MASTER: I probably will...

PAUL: On such a long journey....

JOSEPH: (Turns to Paul) How do you know it's a long journey?

PAUL: I remember the Master telling me...the last time he went to see his brother.....

MASTER: You have a good memory, Paul...

PAUL: Thank you, Master....

MASTER: I expect it will take me two days to get to my brother's house. I know the way to go as I have been before.

JOHN: What are the roads like, Master?

MASTER: Flat, well-worn and open....

PAUL: And as you have been before, Master, you know what to expect...

MASTER: Apart from one thing, Paul...

PAUL: What's that?

MASTER: The weather (pause) I wonder if I will see this man Jesus on my journey... ..

JOSEPH: Jesus? Who's He?

MASTER: (incredulously) Haven't you heard of him?

(Joseph shakes his head)

MASTER: He's going round telling everyone how they should live their lives...

PAUL: Is anyone listening?

MASTER: You would be surprised, Paul...I'm told great numbers are hearing him preach...but what is the point of listening? Why aren't they doing something instead? Why aren't they trying to make the most of their lives? Don't they have any ambition? Opportunities in life are there....you just need to find them and then make the most of them...

JOSEPH: But Master, how can one man captivate so many people?

MASTER: (dismissively) Probably because he performs miracles, too...

JOSEPH: Miracles?!

(Master nods)

MASTER: (abruptly) But that's enough about him!...

JOHN: Is there anything you want us to do while you're away, Master?

MASTER: Yes, there is...I am going to leave each of you some of my talents. You will be responsible for only the ones I give you. Don't lose or devalue them but look for a way to increase their worth.

(Paul, John and Joseph all look at each other)

MASTER: And when I return, I expect to hear from each of you a full account of what you did with the talents. Have I made myself clear?

(Paul, John and Joseph all nod)

MASTER: Paul.. I am going to give you five talents....John, I am giving you two talents and Joseph, I am giving you one talent...

PAUL: Thank you, Master..

MASTER: While I am away, you will carry out your normal duties. Your meals will be prepared by Susan.

(Susan walks in)

MASTER: Yes Susan...

SUSAN: Your meal is ready, Master...

MASTER: I'll be through shortly...

(Sarah walks off)

MASTER: After I eat my meal, I need to finish off packing. I will give you the talents just before I leave.... .

(Master walks off)

PAUL: That's a relief...

JOSEPH: What is?

PAUL: Sarah making our meals while the Master is away...I wouldn't know where to start.....

JOHN: So there is something you're not good at...

PAUL: I suppose you think that's funny...

JOHN: Does the Master know?...

PAUL: Have you finished?

JOHN: I've only just started...

PAUL: You're just jealous that I have five talents...

JOHN: He didn't want to upset you... (pause) but it is quite a responsibility

JOSEPH: For all of us...such a big responsibility.

PAUL: You sound worried, Joseph...

JOSEPH: You know what the Master is like...he's hard and demanding... what if we fail him?...

JOHN: Joseph, you shouldn't worry about failure...think about the chances you miss when you don't try...

JOSEPH: But I could do something with his talent and it could go all wrong...

PAUL: I'm sorry, Joseph, but I think you're being negative?

JOSEPH: I'm not being negative....I'm being realistic..

JOHN: Actually, I think you're being both....Of course, it could all go wrong but you could say that about anything....I really want to go for a walk but I won't because it might rain...so what are you're going to do? Stay at home all day?

PAUL: The master has given you a talent....What does that say to you? He thinks you can do something with it...He's putting his trust in you...

JOSEPH: That's why I don't want to let him down....

JOHN: None of us do...that is why we need to do something that makes him think he made. the right decision to give us his talents....

ACT 3

SUSAN: Have you decided?

(Agnes nods)....

SUSAN: So what are you going to do?

AGNES: I'm going to invite a few friends round

SUSAN: That sounds nice...

AGNES: There will be food and wine...

SUSAN: Sounds even better....

AGNES: I wasn't sure if I was going to do anything...

SUSAN: I know....and when you said to me, "it's just another birthday" I thought you weren't....

AGNES: I know some people get very excited about their birthdays...and some that think it's just another day.....

SUSAN: I remember getting really excited about my birthday when I was a child..

AGNES: And now?

SUSAN: Not nearly as much...Now, they mean you're another year older...

AGNES: Don't count your years, Susan, make your years count....

SUSAN: I would do...if I was the chosen one....

AGNES: What do you mean by that?

SUSAN: The Master is going away and he is leaving talents to Paul, John and Joseph..

AGNES: ...and none to you....

SUSAN: and they are his servants!!!...That's how much he thinks of me!

AGNES: How did you find out?

SUSAN: I overheard him telling them...

AGNES: But why didn't he leave any talents to you?

SUSAN: I have no idea...I'm so angry, Agnes!!

AGNES: Of course you are...

SUSAN: How many years have I worked for him?

AGNES: I know...

SUSAN: All the meals I have prepared for him...

AGNES: I think he takes you for granted ..(pause)...It's easily done...
You've been there a long time so The Master has come to depend on you, He expects you will always be there.

SUSAN: That doesn't make me feel any better...

AGNES: But it could have been worse...

SUSAN: Could it?

AGNES: What would you have said if He had given the talents to Simon?...

(Susan shakes her head)

SUSAN: Simon? I don't think he would have felt sorry for him... too.....

AGNES: Too?....Do you mean, Paul?....

SUSAN: Of course....You should hear the way The Master talks to him...and the way he talks to the other two....such a difference....

AGNES: Is it obvious?

SUSAN: You wouldn't ask that if you knew how many talents he gave Paul..

AGNES: I assumed it was one...

SUSAN: Joseph got one....John got two..

AGNES: and Paul?

SUSAN: Five...

AGNES: Five Talents?!... What is he going to do with them?

SUSAN: What will the other two do with theirs?...

AGNES: Have you thought of asking them?

SUSAN: How can I? They haven't told me The Master gave....

(Simon enters and goes up to Susan)

SIMON: There you are....I've been looking everywhere for you...

SUSAN: What's wrong?.....Has something happened?

SIMON: No...I was just worried I couldn't find you ...Oh, hello Agnes

AGNES: Hello Simon....

SUSAN: Did you think I had run off somewhere?

SIMON: It did cross my mind.....

SUSAN: What made you think that?

SIMON: You looked really angry after the Master had left. Was it something he said to you?

(Sarah shakes her head)

SIMON: I've lost count of the times he's annoyed you.....

SUSAN:and I wish I could ignore them....but I can't...

AGNES: It must be very hard to work for someone who does that...

SUSAN: It happens time and time again...

AGNES: What will you do, Susan? Have you thought of leaving?

SIMON: I thought she had already....

SUSAN: Where would I go? To another town?

AGNES: It would be hard as you've always been here..

SUSAN: And on my own?....

SIMON: I could come with you...

(Susan looks at Simon in shock) .

SIMON: I would keep you company...

SUSAN: I don't know, Simon...

SIMON: There's nothing here that would keep me....

AGNES: Susan...would you wait before you make any decisions?

SUSAN: Wait?...What for, Agnes?..

AGNES: Wait until after my birthday?

SUSAN: Of course, I will...

ACT 4

JOSEPH: How are your crops, Andrew?

ANDREW: Failing...

JOSEPH: Why is that happening?

ANDREW: We haven't had enough rain...We need more...

JOSEPH: Do all your crops need water?

ANDREW: Does everyone need to eat?

(Joseph nods)

JOSEPH: I take your point...

ANDREW: You have no idea, do you?

JOSEPH: About what?

ANDREW: Farming...and how much there is to it...

JOSEPH: I could try and guess...

ANDREW: And we would be here until tomorrow...let me tell you....The first thing to do is get the field ready for sowing...how do you do that?

JOSEPH: I've no idea...

ANDREW: As I thought.... When the soil is ready, it's time to plow...So I go to my field with a light plow and gather my oxen. Then I will get them to haul the plough...Do you follow?

(Joseph nods his head)

ANDREW: On the plow, there's an iron tip and that will bite into the ground....

JOSEPH: ...and that turns the earth?...

(Andrew shakes his head) ...

ANDREW: The earth doesn't need turning...

JOSEPH: Doesn't it? (pause):So... what does it do?

ANDREW: It digs a furrow...and when there are enough furrows, the field is ready for sowing...

JOSEPH: That sounds straight forward...

ANDREW: It would do.....to anyone who knows nothing about farming.....

JOSEPH: So why isn't it?.....

ANDREW: It's a real struggle to keep the furrow straight....and I can't look behind because the plow would go off track...

JOSEPH: I see...

ANDREW: And what makes it even more difficult is my Oxen...They are old so they get tired quickly...I would buy new Oxen if I could...but I can't afford it...

JOSEPH: Everything has its price...

ANDREW: I could ask your Master....I'm sure he could buy me new Oxen....

JOSEPH: You will have to wait to ask him..

ANDREW: Why?

JOSEPH: He's gone to visit his brother...

ANDREW: Who else could I ask?.(turning to Joseph).I wouldn't ask you...You wouldn't be able to buy me new Oxen, would you?

(Joseph looks away and doesn't answer)

ANDREW: Why have you gone quiet? Do you have more money than I think you have?

JOSEPH: No ..and Yes.....

ANDREW: What's that supposed to mean?

JOSEPH: Before he left, my Master gave me one of his talents to look after...

ANDREW: How are you're doing that? Have you kept it in a safe place?

(Joseph nods)

ANDREW: And that's all he wants you to do with it?...

JOSEPH: No, that's not all...

ANDREW: What else, then?...

JOSEPH: He wants me to...do something with it....

ANDREW: And you'll be doing exactly that....

JOSEPH: What do you mean?

ANDREW: When you buy my new oxen...

JOSEPH: That's not a good idea.....

ANDREW: Why not?

JOSEPH: My Master wouldn't approve...

ANDREW: What makes you so sure?

JOSEPH: He never buys any of your barley or wheat....

ANDREW: I know, he's already told me I charge too much....How would he know? He's not a Farmer...

JOSEPH: I'm sorry I can't help you...

ANDREW: So what are you going to do with the talent?...

JOSEPH: I don't know...Everything I think of is too much of a risk (pause)....What are going to do about your Oxen?

ANDREW: There has to be someone who can help me....Your Master is not the only person who has lots of money...

JOSEPH: But how does anyone become wealthy?.

ANDREW: It can't be by working hard....because if it was, I would be rich...so it must be given to you...

JOSPEH: A gift from God...

ANDREW: And I am going to find someone who will share that gift with me...

ACT 5

(Paul enters)

BANKER: How can I help you?

PAUL: My name is Paul and I am a Servant. I work for a Master and he has two other servants....

BANKER: John and Joseph....

PAUL: Yes...but how do you know?

BANKER: I know your Master...I've spoken to him several times...

PAUL: But you sounded so sure....

BANKER: He has told me about the people that work for him...

PAUL: Susan and Simon, too?

(Banker nods)

PAUL: But you must talk to so many people...

BANKER: I have to admit that I saw him the other day...

PAUL: Did you?

BANKER: Just before he went so see his brother...

PAUL: I hope he sees him..

BANKER: Quite...but I have to say there were two other reasons that made me think it was you...

PAUL: (apprehensively) Will you tell me?

BANKER: Your Master speaks highly of you...your standard of work and your attitude is excellent...and what also impresses him is to see that from someone so young...

PAUL: I don't know what to say...

BANKER: How about the reason you came to see me?

PAUL: Oh yes, of course!....My Master, as you know, has gone to see his brother, but before he went, he gave talents to John, Joseph and me...

BANKER: Did he now?

PAUL: He has told us to look after them... but to make the most of them, too

BANKER: And you've thought of a way to do that..

PAUL: That's why I'm here...

BANKER: How many talents did your Master give you?

PAUL: Five...

BANKER: Did he give John and Joseph the same number?

(Paul shakes his head)

BANKER: That doesn't surprise me...

PAUL: Nothing like this has ever happened to me...

BANKER: Your Master has put his trust in you...

PAUL: ...as he has with John and Joseph....

BANKER: Yes, but he gave you more...which tells me that he thinks you are more capable than the other two...

PAUL: I don't know if I am...

BANKER: There's another way to look at it...Your Master knows how much effort it takes each of you to achieve something. So, if he gave a less capable servant too many talents, he would be asking too much of him...

PAUL: I don't want to disappoint him...:

BANKER: You won't but what are John and Joseph going to do?

PAUL: I think John will be coming to see you...I'm not sure about Joseph...

BANKER: It's an opportunity for them, too, so hopefully, they will make the most of it...anyway, I assume you will be leaving the five talents you've been given with me....

...

PAUL: If I could...

BANKER: Of course...and that will earn interest until your Master's return...

PAUL: Thank you very much for help...

(The Banker and Paul shake hands)

BANKER: It was good to meet you, Paul...

(Andrew hurries in)

ANDREW: I need to speak to you...

BANKER: I can because I've just finished my meeting...

PAUL: Goodbye...

ANDREW: I have come about my Oxen....

BANKER: What about them?...

ANDREW: They are old...they are tired...

BANKER: What are you saying Andrew?

ANDREW: They are not doing the job as well as I need them to...

BANKER: So you have a problem...

ANDREW: But you have the solution...

BANKER: Andrew, I hope you're not going to ask what I think you're going to ask me....

ANDREW: Why not?

BANKER: Your memory can't be that short...

ANDREW: What do you mean that?...

BANKER: Have you forgotten about the other loan? The one you still haven't repaid...

ANDREW: Of course I haven't!! (pause) If the crops hadn't failed, I would have paid that back.....you know I would have done.....

BANKER: So the crops failed....

ANDREW: (irately) I don't control the weather, do I?...I can't perform a rain-dance....What do you expect me to do?...

BANKER: I expect you to realise that I can't give you another loan...

ANDREW: But it's my livelihood....

BANKER: And it's my responsibility...

ANDREW: To do what?

BANKER: To act responsibly with the money I've been given

ANDREW: Does it matter if you're not?

BANKER: One day I'll have to be accountable .

ANDREW: Just you?....

BANKER: We will all have to be...

ANDREW: So, is that it? You won't change your mind?

BANKER: Andrew, there has to be a change in the weather before I change my mind...

(Andrew storms off)

ACT 6

AGNES: I'm so pleased you're here, Mark..

MARK: I couldn't miss my Sister's birthday...

AGNES: But I didn't know you were coming to see me...

MARK: I wasn't sure myself....and I couldn't tell you I was planning to come and then not arrive...

AGNES: That would have been such a disappointment...

MARK: But I was determined to get here..

AGNES: Yes, Mark, you've always been like that...you never gave up on anything...

MARK: Only drinking....

(Agnes smiles)

AGNES: So how many days have you been walking....

MARK: At least two..

AGNES: How was your journey?

MARK: Very interesting....

AGNES: Was it someone you met? Or something you saw?

MARK: Both...

AGNES: Both? What do you mean?...

MARK: I came across a large group of people who were all listening to this man....I had never seen anything like this before...

AGNES: Who was the man?

MARK: His name was Jesus....have you heard of him?

(Agnes shakes her head)

AGNES: What was he saying?

MARK: He was telling people how they should live their lives...

AGNES: On whose authority?..

MARK: On God's....he's been telling everyone he's been sent by God...

AGNES: But anyone can say that....why would they believe him?

MARK: They probably see him as some kind of Saviour...

AGNES: But it's just words...

MARK: and actions...

AGNES: What did you see him do?

MARK: A blind man went up to Jesus. I couldn't hear what they said to each other...but what I saw was Jesus putting his hands over the eyes of the blind man...and then the blind man cried out ..his cry was so loud!!

AGNES: What did he say?

MARK: I can see...

AGNES: And he was healed?

(Mark nods)...

AGNES: What was his name again?

MARK: Jesus.....

(Susan and Simon walk on)

SUSAN: Agnes!!

AGNES: Susan..

SUSAN: Happy Birthday!!

AGNES: Thank you.

SIMON: Happy Birthday, Agnes!!

AGNES: Thank you, Simon....Can I introduce my brother, Mark.. This is Susan and Simon...

(They all shake hands)

MARK: I'm pleased to meet both of you...

SUSAN: It's so nice to put a face to a name...Agnes has spoken about you many times..

MARK: Has she?...So what can I say in my defence?

SUSAN: Quite the opposite...Agnes said she hasn't seen you for so long that she wasn't sure she would ever see you again...

MARK: Yes, it has been a long time...

AGNES: Too long...

MARK: Where do you both work?

SUSAN: I make my Master his meals...

SIMON: and I help her...

SUSAN: He tries to...

SIMON: I'll try and help anyone...I'll go and ask our three Servants if they need any help...I might even ask the Farmer, Andrew...

SUSAN: (interrupts Simon) Simon, you say you will but you never do...(turns to Mark) Andrew is lot less patient than I am...How long will you be staying, Mark?

MARK: As long as my Sister puts up with me..

AGNES: You know you can stay as long as you like....

MARK: She's being polite...

AGNES: How can you be polite about putting up with someone?...

SUSAN: Only when you have to...

AGNES: Have you decided, Susan? Are you going to leave?

(John walks on)

AGNES: John!

JOHN: Agnes...Happy Birthday!!

AGNES: Thank you....you look happy with yourself.....

JOHN: But it won't be for much longer...

SUSAN: The Master is due back any day now....

AGNES: Is he?

JOHN: I just hope he's in a good mood...

SUSAN: That depends, doesn't it? (pause) On how his Brother is?

JOHN: I'm sorry, Susan, I didn't know the Master told you...

SUSAN: He didn't exactly....

JOHN: You heard him telling Paul, Joseph and me...

SUSAN: I was in the room next door when he did....and he hasn't got a quiet voice, has he?

JOHN: But if you heard that...you must know about the talents....

SUSAN: You still have yours, then?

(John shakes his head)

JOHN: I decided to invest them, so I could earn some interest. Paul did the same thing.

SUSAN: What about Joseph?

JOHN: He wasn't sure what he was going to do...

SIMON: Do you think the Master will mind if he's done nothing with It? I suppose as long as he hasn't lost it....

AGNES: But if the Master gave his talent to Joseph, wouldn't he have done that for a reason?....

ACT 7

- MASTER: When I arrived, and as soon as I saw him, I knew he was going to die. He was so weak.... and looked so frail. And I think he knew that too. Just from the look he gave me. He never said as much but sometimes a look can say more than a hundred words...
- PAUL: Could he speak to you, Master?
- MASTER: Yes, Paul... but not very much... so I would do most of the talking...but he was used to that.....
- PAUL: Really?
- MASTER: When we were growing up, I was always the one who had something to say. I was very ambitious. I wanted to be successful and rich. My brother was different. He didn't have the same ambition...
- JOHN: Were you surprised, Master?
- MASTER: I was disappointed...I thought he could have done more with his life...
- JOSEPH: We're all different, Master...
- MASTER: I look around and see what people have made of their lives...some have had opportunities they've taken and some have had opportunities they've squandered....
- PAUL: Was anyone looking after your brother, Master?
- MASTER: He had one servant...I told him he could go as I would not be leaving him. So when he died, it was just my brother and me...
- PAUL: Did you find the walk back hard, Master?
- MASTER: No, I didn't. Paul... I think it would have been if someone had been with me.. ...I needed to be on my own....It gave me time to think....and reflect.....
- JOHN: I think it's important to grieve...
- MASTER: Yes, but not for too long...The world does not stop while you grieve...you need to take that leap forward to the present...
- PAUL: Are you ready for that, Master?

MASTER: I am, Paul....so tell me what did you do with the five talents I gave you...

PAUL: Well Master, I thought the best thing I could do was go to the Banker and put the talents on deposit....

MASTER: How many did you put on deposit?

PAUL: All five... I thought they were safe there and they would earn interest as well...

MASTER: And I assume they did?

PAUL: I have gained another five...

MASTER: Another five!! Well done, Paul! You have done extremely well!!

PAUL: Thank you, Master...

MASTER: What about, you John?

JOHN: I did the same as Paul, Master

MASTER: So you've earned another two talents?

JOHN: Yes, Master...

MASTER: And you, Joseph, did you do the same, too?

JOSEPH:No, Master....I didn't

MASTER: That does surprise me....so you must have thought of another way to increase their worth...what was it?

JOSEPH: There wasn't one.....

MASTER: What do you mean?...

JOSEPH: I didn't do anything with them.....

MASTER: (getting angry) What did you say?...

JOSEPH: I had my reasons...

MASTER: They had better be good ones!...

JOSEPH: I didn't want to disappoint you, Master...I thought that would be the last thing you wanted...so I thought the best thing I could do, was to keep it safe...

MASTER: What did you do with it?...

JOSEPH: I dug a hole and buried it... so no one could find it... I didn't tell anyone... so no one could steal the talent....

MASTER: And is that all you did with it?...

JOSPEH: I could have bought new oxen for the farmer but I thought you wouldn't want me to....

MASTER: Do you know what you've done? You've totally disobeyed my command...I entrusted you with this talent and, in return, you have shown me nothing! You have completely wasted the opportunity I gave you! I don't want you as my servant, anymore! Give me the talent back and then pack your belongings and go!

(Joseph leaves)

MASTER: (Turning to Paul and John) Both of you, go and bring me back the talents... and tell Susan to bring me my meal...

PAUL: Yes, Master...

(Paul and Joseph leave).

MASTER: Why is she taking so long?.....Susan!

(Simon enters)

MASTER: I didn't call you....Where's Susan?

SIMON: She's not here, Master...

MASTER: Has she gone to the Market?...

SIMON: No, Master....

MASTER: So, where is she? :

SIMON: She's left you, Master....and she won't be coming back.....