

# Occupy Until I Return

## Occupy

### VERB

1. **reside** – or have one's place of business in (a building):

"The apartment she occupies in Manhattan."

2. **fill** or take up – (a space or time):

"Two long windows occupied almost the whole wall."

3. **be situated** – in or at (a place or position in a system or hierarchy):

"On the corporate ladder, they occupy the lowest rungs."

4. **to inhabit** – a person, animal, or group - to live in or occupy (a place or environment)

"My dad was part of the post-WW II occupation of Japan."

### What is a verb?

Verbs are the action words in a sentence that describe what the subject is doing. Along with nouns, verbs are the main part of a sentence or phrase, telling a story about what is taking place. In fact, without a verb, full thoughts can't be properly conveyed, and even the simplest sentences, such as *Maria sings*, have one. A verb can be a sentence by itself, with the subject, in most cases you, implied or understood, such as, *Sing!* and *Drive!* Meaning YOU sing, and YOU drive.

- Occupy has been in the news a lot the past couple of years
  - Occupy Wall Street
  - Occupy San Francisco – flowers in your hair
  - Occupy Portland – over a year in front of city hall



# Occupy Until I Return

- Sometimes it requires little more than sitting



- But what did the man mean when he entrusted his wealth to his servants?

- Party, maintain, grow?
- What were his expectations?
  - Gave to each according to their ability
  - He understood that degrees of ability existed
- So, without explicit instructions, I would think that his message would be, “as best as you can, do as you’ve seen me do.”



- After some time, the master returns

- He settled his accounts
  - Five grew to ten – level of trust grew
  - Two grew to four – same as before, trusted more
  - One remained one – not so good for this guy
- Thrown into darkness with weeping and gnashing of teeth



- My experience of seeing hell

- I willingly disobeyed the Word of the Lord
  - Went to see D
  - Utterly rejected
  - Spirit of recklessness and death overtook me
  - Speeding, swerving, corners on two wheels I made my way back to the Friday night College Kids’ Meeting
  - “Hell has got a grip on me, and I can’t shake it.”
- “Mike, what do you see?”
  - “I *see* hell.”
  - Extreme darkness, lying on my back
  - Heavy atmospheric weight on my chest and stomach – I could not move
  - Sulphur *smell* of smoke
  - I could *feel* demons rush by me
  - I could *hear* screams
  - I could *taste* the rot and smoke in the air



## Occupy Until I Return

- No red devil with a pitchfork
- No open fires with souls being beaten
- Nothing but utter darkness, the atmosphere, and the pain without relief
- And then the praying began
  - I was freed
  - I could hope again
  - I could see a future that did not include hell
- Are you praying more for the return of Jesus, than you are about the lost?
  - Are you believing for those loved ones who aren't yet saved?
  - Are you wishing for some people to go to hell?
  - Are you asking the Lord for daily opportunities to touch lives of the unsaved
- Unlike the "master" in this parable, Jesus gave *specific* instructions
  - Make disciples of **ALL** nations
  - Baptize in Name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
  - Teaching them to obey everything Christ has commanded of us
- The Judgment Seat of Christ (*Gr. Bema*)
  - The judgment seat of Christ is where Christ rewards believers for their faithfulness on earth
  - Kingdom work will survive
  - Works of the flesh (non-Kingdom) will be burned
    - I don't want to pass into the Kingdom of God, smelling like smoke
- Not to be confused with the Great White Throne Judgment
  - Great White Throne judgment is where those who rejected Jesus as Lord and Savior will be judged and sent to hell
  - based solely on whether they accepted the gift of salvation

