





E P I P H A N Y



Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:6-8 NIV



“I think it very unmeet in these tremendous mysteries to go farther than we have God’s own light to guide us.”

- Richard Baxter

The image features a light green background with two stained glass window designs. The design on the left is composed of various colored panes in shades of blue, yellow, and black, with a jagged, irregular edge. The design on the right is primarily green and black, also with a jagged, irregular edge. Both designs are framed by black lines.

While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a *parable*...

Luke 19:11a NIV



Parable



A true to life story used to illustrate or illuminate truth

Jesus spoke in parables to:

1. reveal truth to His followers
2. conceal truth from those who wouldn't accept the truth even if they discovered it





While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once.

Luke 19:11 NIV





“The parable is, in effect, an allegory of Jesus’ own life. In the narrative of the parable the reader sees his incarnation, his investment in his disciples, his rejection by his enemies, his crowning as King (through death, resurrection, and ascension) and his return to judge the world.”

- Kent Hughes





He said: “A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return.¹³ So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. ‘Put this money to work,’ he said, ‘until I come back.’¹⁴ But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, ‘We don’t want this man to be our king.’¹⁵ He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.¹⁶ The first one came and said, ‘Sir, your mina has earned ten more.’¹⁷ ‘Well done, my good servant!’ his master replied. ‘Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.’”

Luke 19:12-17 NIV





“The second came and said, ‘Sir, your mina has earned five more.’
¹⁹ His master answered, ‘You take charge of five cities.’”

Luke 19:18-19 NIV





“Then another servant came and said, ‘Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth.’²¹ I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.’²² His master replied, ‘I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow?’²³ Why then didn’t you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?’”

Luke 19:20-23 NIV

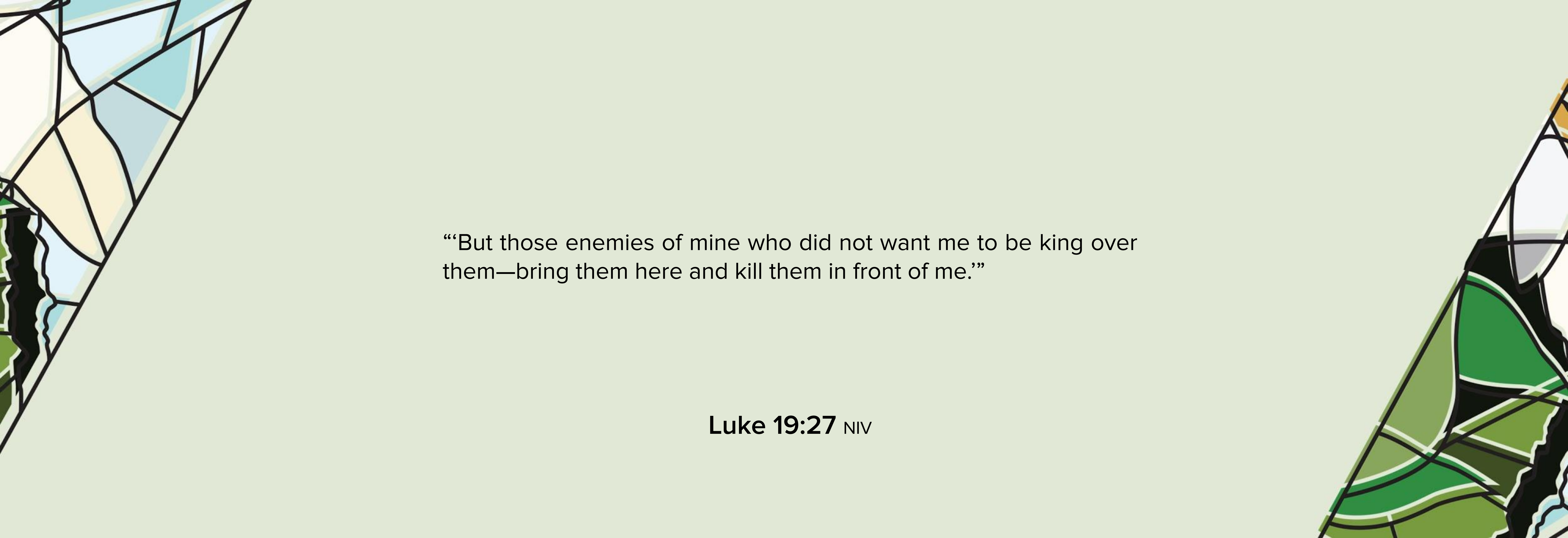


“Then he said to those standing by, ‘Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.’²⁵ ‘Sir,’ they said, ‘he already has ten!’²⁶ He replied, ‘I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away.’”

Luke 19:24-26 NIV



Being loosely associated with the King was of little value when the King returned. What mattered most was the health of his relationship with the King upon His return.



“But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me.”

Luke 19:27 NIV



“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

- Jim Elliott