

#5 Ready!

Matthew 25:1-13

The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

Matthew 25:1 “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

1. The Groom Represents Jesus

John 3:28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ ²⁹The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete.

2. Jesus Promised To Return For His Beloved

John 14:2 In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

3. His Coming Seems Delayed

Matthew 25:5 As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.

4. The Groom Will Surely Come!

Matthew 25:6 But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’

- A. Personally – *1 Thessalonians 4:15-17*
- B. Physically – *Acts 1:11*
- C. Suddenly and unexpectedly – *1 Thessalonians 5:2-3*
- D. To whisk His bride away to a magnificent wedding feast!

5. Wise People Get Prepared For His Return

Matthew 24:44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

6. Foolish People Wait Until It’s Too Late, And Will Miss Out

Matthew 25:10 ... those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’

“One day too late, one day too late,
Jesus came, but you’ve been left behind to wait.
Yesterday you couldn’t find,
Time for Jesus on your mind,
You finally came, to call His name,
But one day too late.”

“IF NEVER BEFORE, NOW!”