

The Kingdom Of Heaven Compared To Ten Virgins

Matthew 25:1-13

Intro:

- A. **Jesus taught His disciples that He would return to this earth.**
 - 1. This was in response to their question.
 - 2. "...What shall be the sign of thy coming..."

 - B. **His disciples do not know the day or the hour.**
 - 1. It will be as a thief to those who do not look for His appearing.
 - 2. His disciples are to be ready. **V.44**
 - 3. They must not assume His return is being delayed. **V.48**

 - C. **Not all servants will be ready.**
 - 1. There are faithful servants.
 - 2. There are evil servants.

 - D. **Being ready involves two things.**
 - 1. Understanding the signs.
 - 2. Making definite preparation.
- I. The Parable Of The Ten Virgins.
- A. **The comparison Jesus made. V.25**
 - 1. likened = ομοιω = "to make like," "compare"
 - 2. The Kingdom of Heaven is compared to the circumstances described in verses 45-51 of chapter 24.
 - 3. It is the time of the Lord's return.
 - 4. v.25
 - 5. This is the narrow scope of the comparison.

 - B. **Things that are different.**
 - 1. Five of them are wise.
 - 2. Five of them are foolish.
 - 3. wise = φρονιμος = understanding, thoughtful, practically wise, sensible, prudent. (Not σοφος, which is clever, skilled, sophisticated.)
 - 4. foolish = μωπος = dull, not acute, from root = to be silly, one who does not think ahead.
 - 5. The foolish took no extra oil. **V.3**

6. The wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. **V.4**
7. vessel = αγγειον = a small container, on which oil was carried to replenish torches and lamps.
8. The five wise virgins went to the marriage. **V.10**
9. The five foolish virgins did not go. **Vs.11-12**

C. Things that are the same.

1. They are all virgins.
2. They all had lamps.
3. They all had oil in their lamps.
4. All ten lamps were lighted and burning. **V.8**
5. They all trimmed their lamps. **V.7**
6. trimmed = κοσμεω = to put in order, to adjust.
7. They all slumbered and slept. This is not an evil deed! **V.5**
8. They all heard the same cry. **Vs.6-7**

D. The point of emphasis.

1. The wise had thought and planned ahead. They had extra containers of oil. This prepared them for a longer wait than expected.
2. The foolish had not planned ahead. They did not have a container of oil.
3. As they waited for the bridegroom their lamps began to flicker. They realized their predicament. The wise could not share their oil. Why? Galatians 6:5 - "...for every man shall bear his own burden." We cannot get ready for someone else, only ourselves.
4. The bridegroom came! The wise went into the hose with him.
5. The foolish had gone to Wal-Mart to buy a container of oil. When they returned they sought admission to the wedding. They were refused. They suffered loss.

E. The heart of the parable.

1. We do not know the day of His return. **V.13**
2. We do not know the hour of His return.
3. We do know He will return.
4. WE do know the season of His return.

II. What This Does Not Teach.

- A. **The plan of salvation.**
 - 1. Salvation is a gift of God.
 - 2. This has to do with rewards.

- B. **The bride of Christ.**
 - 1. None of these are the bride!
 - 2. They are bride's maids.
 - 3. The bride has already been chosen.

- C. **A Baptist purgatory.**
 - 1. There is no soul-sleep through the 1,000 years.
 - 2. This is Roman Catholic doctrine.

