




The Parable of the Wise and the Foolish Virgins

MATTHEW 25:1-13

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- ▶ One of three parables on this occasion about the coming of the Son of Man
 - ▶ Destruction of Jerusalem – 24:1-35
 - ▶ Coming of the Son of Man at end of time – 24:36 – 25:46
 - ▶ Parable of the faithful servant and the evil servant
 - ▶ Parable of the wise and foolish virgins
 - ▶ Parable of the talents
 - ▶ Son of Man coming in final judgment

1. Every person must take responsibility for self

“Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out”

- ▶ You cannot buy, transfer, give to another, take from another, share righteousness
 - ▶ Ezekiel 18:20b; Revelation 3:18
- ▶ You are responsible individually to obey the gospel and remain faithful
 - ▶ John 21:21-22; Acts 2:38; Philippians 2:12
- ▶ You are accountable for yourself
 - ▶ Romans 14:11-12

1. Every person must take responsibility for self

“Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out”

- ▶ You cannot blame others for your choices
 - ▶ Ezekiel 18:1-3
- ▶ Will not be saved by association
 - ▶ Revelation 3:3-5
- ▶ Your name must be in the Book of Life
 - ▶ Revelation 20:12-15; Exodus 32:30-33

2. It is not enough to begin – You must finish

“Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps”

- ▶ You can be close to the kingdom, yet miss it
 - ▶ Mark 12:34; Acts 13:46
- ▶ You cannot rest on past accomplishments
 - ▶ Hebrews 10:32-39; Revelation 2:4-5
- ▶ Your greatest desire must be to enter in
 - ▶ Philippians 2:21-23; 3:13-14

2. It is not enough to begin – You must finish

“Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps”

- ▶ You can fall away and lose your reward
 - ▶ Galatians 5:4; Hebrews 10:26-27; 2 Peter 3:17
- ▶ You must give diligent effort in order to finish
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; 2 Timothy 4:7-8

3. There are no second chances

“And the door was shut”

- ▶ As in the days of Noah
 - ▶ Genesis 7:7, 16, 21
- ▶ No purgatory, no baptism for the dead
 - ▶ 2 Corinthians 5:10
- ▶ Death shuts the door
 - ▶ Luke 16:22-23; Hebrews 9:27
- ▶ Door not re-opened
 - ▶ v.11-12
- ▶ It is the finality of all finalities
 - ▶ Revelation 22:14-15

4. We must be watchful and prepared in order to be saved eternally

“Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming”

- ▶ Saved now, but want to be saved in eternity
 - ▶ Romans 13:11; 2 Peter 1:10-11; 1 Corinthians 15:1-2
- ▶ We know not the hour nor the day
 - ▶ Matthew 24:36, 44
- ▶ That day will come suddenly
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; 5:2-3
- ▶ Delay in man's estimation really means opportunity to repent
 - ▶ 2 Peter 3:3-13

4. We must be watchful and prepared in order to be saved eternally

- ▶ In that day, there will be many unprepared
 - ▶ There will be some who did many good deeds but were never in Christ
 - ▶ There will be some who were baptized into Christ but then did not live the life of a Christian
 - ▶ There will be some who were obedient to Christ for many years but later became unfaithful
 - ▶ There will be some who did many wonderful works but practiced lawlessness
 - ▶ There will be some who became bitter over some offense suffered from others

4. We must be watchful and prepared in order to be saved eternally

- ▶ In that day, there will be many unprepared
 - ▶ There will be some who have become proud, rejecting all entreaties of brethren, separating themselves from brethren and committing themselves to a never-ending death spiral
 - ▶ There will be some who suppose another's worse evil makes theirs ok
 - ▶ There will be some who started hot but grew cold
 - ▶ There will be some who grew indifferent, apathetic, lukewarm
 - ▶ There will be some who became entangled in the affairs of this life

4. We must be watchful and prepared in order to be saved eternally

- ▶ You don't need to be mean and ugly to be unprepared
- ▶ You don't need to live in the most heinous sin to be unprepared
- ▶ You don't need to become a denominationalist or a Calvinist or a Catholic or a Mormon or a Muslim to be unprepared
- ▶ You don't need to openly deny the Lord Jesus Christ to be unprepared
- ▶ You don't need to become an agnostic to be unprepared
- ▶ You don't need to become an atheist to be unprepared

All that's required of you in order to be unprepared is to
be NEGLIGENT

Hebrews 2:1-4

4. We must be watchful and prepared in order to be saved eternally


“Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding”


- ▶ Let us then get ready!
 - ▶ Examine yourself
 - ▶ 2 Corinthians 13:5
 - ▶ Watch and pray
 - ▶ Mark 14:38; Ephesians 6:18; 1 John 1:9
 - ▶ Live holy, sanctified life
 - ▶ Luke 21:34-35

4. We must be watchful and prepared in order to be saved eternally

“Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding”

- ▶ Let us then get ready!
 - ▶ Be occupied with labor in the kingdom
 - ▶ Ephesians 2:10
 - ▶ Grow in grace and knowledge
 - ▶ 2 Peter 3:17-18

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The only way to be ready on that day is to be ready every
day, which means...

Be ready today!

There is no cure for unreadiness on that day

There is a cure today

Today is the day of salvation!