

SERMON DATE: May 9, 2021

SERMON SERIES: Will You Be Ready?

SERMON TITLE: Will You Be Ready?

TEXT: Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. ⁵ Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and *began* to sleep. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet *him*.’ ⁷ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the prudent, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ But the prudent answered, ‘No, there will not be enough for us and you *too*; go instead to the dealers and buy *some* for yourselves.’ ¹⁰ And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other virgins also came, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open up for us.’ ¹² But he answered, ‘Truly I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³ Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

The Central Truth of Today’s Message

One day, Jesus is going to return; no one knows the day or the hour, so we should all be prepared.

Observation #1: The Parable of the Ten Virgins is a picture of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Observation #2:

We cannot distinguish the foolish virgins from the wise at the outset.

Observation #3:

The five wise virgins would not share their oil.

Observation #4:

When the bride groom returned, there was neither time nor opportunity for the foolish virgins to prepare.

Lesson #1: Looks can be deceiving.

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps.

(Matthew 25:1-4)

Lesson #2: Sleep can be enticing.

⁵ Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and *began* to sleep.

(Matthew 25:5)

Lesson #3: The return of Christ will be sudden.

⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet *him*.’ ⁷ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.

(Matthew 25:6-7)

Lesson #4: You are responsible for your own preparation.

⁸ The foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the prudent answered, 'No, there will not be enough for us and you *too*; go instead to the dealers and buy *some* for yourselves.'

(Matthew 25:8-9)

Lesson #5: God's grace is amazing, but it does not last forever.

¹⁰ And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.' ¹² But he answered, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.