

Matthew 25:1-46
The Ten Virgins – Who Are They? And Sheep/Goat
Judgment
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All verses are from the New King James Version, 1985 Thomas Nelson

Matt 24:36 "But of that day [*of the Rapture of the Church – leaving the unbelieving Jews behind*] and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.
37 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 Then [*after the abomination of desolation*] two men [*Jews who don't flee to the wilderness*] will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 **Watch therefore**, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. 45 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 47 Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' 49 and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, 50 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, 51 and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:1 "Then the kingdom of heaven [*physical, not spiritual as kingdom of god – in context here – the millennium*] shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

**Ten virgins = Jews, not the bride, Bridegroom = Messiah ,
Virgins are waiting for a wedding feast with the groom's bride. When is the wedding of the bride (church) with Jesus (groom)?**

Rev 19:1 After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! 2 For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her." 3 Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" 4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" 5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" 6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 **Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**" 8 **And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.** 9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are

called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Matthew 25:2 "Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

Five foolish virgins are thinking the Messiah is coming as the one to build the temple and allow sacrifice – Ends up being the antichrist.

Five wise are thinking the Messiah is not the coming world leader but rather the Messiah promised in scripture – coming later as prophesied by Daniel.

Possibly reflecting those Jews who are believe the 144,000 who will be preaching after the church is gone.

Matthew 25:3 "Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them,

No extra oil in case they are wrong

Matthew 25:4 "but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

Were waiting for the true Messiah at the timing given by Daniel and Jesus

Matthew 25:5 "But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

Delayed = God's timing and true Messiah – not man's timing and false Messiah

Matthew 25:6 "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!'

When does this become clear to all ten virgins? – At the abomination of desolation.

Matt 24:15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

This will be seen as the bridegroom coming in 3.5 years to those who have listened to Daniel, the 144,000, the two witnesses and the scriptures of Jesus.

Matthew 25:7 "Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 "And the foolish [*who had followed the AC. as their messiah*] said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'9 "But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.'

We are headed to the hills of Jordan like Jesus told us to and we don't have any for you who were deceived.

Matthew 25:10 "And while they went to buy [*for 3.5 years*], the bridegroom came [*at the Second Coming*], and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

The believing Jews were able to enter into the millennium to witness the bride/church, living and reigning with the Groom/Jesus during the 1,000 year reign.

Matt 24:29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Matthew 25:11 "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' 12 "But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, **I do not know you.**'

Matthew 24:40 Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

Reflecting that the five foolish virgins are killed by being left out of the grooms protection because they did not watch.

Matthew 25:13 "**Watch therefore**, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

The following parable must also be interpreted in the context of the parable of the Ten Virgins and of what follows in the Sheep/Goat judgment.

All three of the chapter 25 parables are about tribulation survivors who are about to be judged as either sheep or goats. They will either be allowed into the millennial reign of Jesus or judged.

Matthew 25:14 "For the kingdom of heaven [*Millennial reign*] is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants [*missed the rapture and were left behind*] and delivered his goods to them. 15 "And to one he gave five talents [*money by weight*], to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey [*to heaven after the rapture of the church*]. 16 "Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 "And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. 18 "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. 19 "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.'

These servants invested what God had given them to give to others in the name of his Master and did so to increase the assets of the Master.

Matthew 25:21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you **ruler over many things**. Enter into the joy of your lord. [*Millennium*']

They are allowed to live and enter the kingdom of Jesus during the millennium. They are not being saved by faith, but rather are allowed into the kingdom based on the works of compassion toward others. They will still be in human bodies.

Matthew 25:22 "He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' 23 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you **ruler over many things**. Enter into the joy of your lord. [*Millennium*']

Same reward as the one who received five talents – allowed to live into the millennium

Matthew 25:24 "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

Kept what the lord gave him in his bunker and was able to live through the tribulation, but never invested into the lives of those who were being persecuted and killed.

Matthew 25:26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 27 'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28 'Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. 30 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The wicked servant in this parable is the same as a goat in the coming parable.

Judgment of the Sheep and Goats

Chapter 25 ends with the final teaching by Jesus about His return. Verses 31-46 are commonly referred to as the "Sheep and Goat" judgment. I rarely hear a teaching of this passage that keeps the context in mind. If the context is not maintained, the result is a twisting of what Jesus said by trying to apply this judgment of sheep and goats to our present day.

To prevent misunderstanding, we must emphasize the context of verse Matthew 25:31. Jesus starts by defining the timing of when verses 32-46 apply, that is, "**When the Son of Man comes in His glory.**"

This is clearly a reference to His coming at the end of the tribulation period when He sets up His kingdom on earth. Therefore, any teaching about the "Sheep and Goat" judgment (of the following verses) which does not apply this judgment to the time when Jesus visibly returns to earth is in error.

Matthew 25:31 "**When the Son of Man comes in His glory**, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

Jesus returns and kills all who have fought against Him – Rev 19

Second coming – The actual wedding of the bride. This ceremony is not to take place until after 3.5 years of having the door shut in the parable of the Ten Virgins.

Second coming – After the man of the talent parable has returned from traveling to a far country wanting to see what the survivors of the tribulation have done with what he gave them.

Matthew 25:32 "All the nations [*gentiles who survived the tribulation period*] will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

The survivors of the Tribulation period will then be gathered by the angels – Matthew 24:31

Who are these survivors?

They can't be the church or even those who became believers during the tribulation. The church was taken to heaven before the Wrath of God started when Jesus loosed the seals of the scroll (Rev 4-6).

The survivors can't be those who became believers in Jesus during the tribulation (tribulation saints) because the Antichrist was given power to kill them all (Dan 7:25, Dan 12:7, Rev 6:9-11, 7:14, 12:17, 13:7 – discussed below). Those believers who are killed during the tribulation are given glorified bodies as Jesus returns in Revelation 20:4-6, thus completing the "first resurrection". It should be noted that these verses make it clear that there cannot be a "post-tribulation rapture" because there are no living believers to rapture.

The survivors cannot be those who took the Mark of the Beast (Rev 13), because all those who do are sent to the Lake of Fire (Rev 14:9-10).

Therefore the survivors who take part in the "Sheep/Goat Judgment" of Matthew 25 below are those who did not openly profess faith in Jesus as their savior, did not take the Mark of the Beast, but somehow remained hidden from the Antichrist security apparatus and survived not being able to buy and sell for 3.5 years.

Matthew 25:33 "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

The right hand is the side of honor, the left hand the side of judgment.

Matthew 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

The surviving "sheep" will be allowed to continue living on Earth for 1,000 years under the rule of Jesus as King.

Matthew 25:37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 'When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

What defines these survivors as sheep rather than goats is by their actions towards what Jesus refers to as His brethren. But who are these? Jesus answers this question in Matthew:

Matt 12:46-50 While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You." But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! **"For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."**

What is the will of the Father? Jesus again answers in John:

John 6:29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

It is clear from this passage that Jesus considers those who "do the will of His Father" are those who believe in Jesus who the Father sent, who are also "His brethren". Therefore, Jesus declares that these "sheep" (unlike the sheep of the church age) are those who ministered food, clothing, hospitality, and compassion to Jews and believers in Jesus before they were killed by the antichrist. These martyrs came to faith during the tribulation period, after the rapture of the church saints.

Therefore, the "sheep" of this parable invested their "talents of money" to minister to the Jewish and Gentile tribulation saints.

But these tribulation saints are the people who are being hunted down and beheaded by the Antichrist during his last 3.5 years of tyranny. Daniel and Revelation make it clear that the Antichrist will concentrate his wrath on the saints who are confessing Jesus as their savior, to the extent that there are no believers in Jesus who are still alive at the second coming of Jesus.

Dan 7:21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and **prevailing against them,**

Dan 12:7 Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been **completely shattered**, all these things shall be finished.

Rev 6:9 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, **until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.**

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war **with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**

Rev 13:6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. 7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints **and to overcome them**. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Rev 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: '**Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.**'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

But anyone who was **not** on the "Saint" hit-list, because they did not have the "testimony of Jesus", but who refuse to take the Mark of the Beast, have somehow survived "off the grid". These unbelieving survivors tried to comfort the "Saints" who were being hunted down and killed. These investors of God's "talents" are judged by Jesus at His coming to be the "Sheep" who are allowed to live into the thousand year reign on earth.

Matthew 25:41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

It is important to note that the Lake of Fire was made for the Devil and his angels, not for man. It is man's foolishness for joining in Satan's rebellion that causes him to go to the same eternal punishment.

Matthew 25:42 'for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 'I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' 44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' 45 "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' 46 "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Those who were survivalists without any motive to serve Jesus or to have compassion on Jesus' brethren, the Tribulation Saints, will not be allowed to live into Jesus' one-thousand year reign on Earth. Since they are being judged by Jesus, they now join the Antichrist and False Prophet in the Lake of Fire.

These are the ones who "hid" their talents of money in the earlier parable.