

Stories of Jesus
Parable of the Ten Virgins
November 12, 2023

Matthew 24:42-46 “So you, too, must **keep watch!** For you don’t know what day your Lord is coming. Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would keep watch and not permit his house to be broken into. You also must **be ready all the time**, for the Son of Man will come when least expected. A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of **managing** his other household servants and feeding them. If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward.”

Matthew 25:1-13 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. **Five** of them were **foolish** and **five** were **wise**. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any **oil** with them. The wise ones, however, **took oil in jars along with their lamps**. The **bridegroom was a long time in coming**, and they all became **drowsy and fell asleep**. At **midnight** the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘**Give us some of your oil**; our lamps are going out.’ ‘**No**,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the **wedding banquet**. And the **door was shut**. Later the others also came. ‘**Lord, Lord**,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t **know** you.’ Therefore **keep watch**, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

3 Characters in the Story:

- ✓ Bridegroom – _____.
- ✓ Ten Virgins – _____.
- ✓ Oil for the Lamps – _____.

5 Truths for End Time Living:

1. Guard against _____, specifically laziness and passivity.

Proverbs 1:20-21 Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square; on top of the wall she cries out, at the city gate she makes her speech...

2. Stay filled with the _____.

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Ephesians 5:15-20 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, **making the most of every opportunity**, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, **be filled with the Spirit**, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Be careful about _____ people.

Matthew 25:8-10 “The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘**Give us some of your oil**; our lamps are going out.’ ‘**No**,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the **wedding banquet**. And the **door was shut**.”

4. Become comfortable with _____.

Isaiah 40:28-31 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but **they who wait for the LORD** shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Hebrews 9:27-28 And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are **eagerly waiting for him**.

5. God is calling us to a _____ not religion.

Matthew 7:22-23 “Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never **knew** you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”

Walk Away: While we are waiting for the Bridegroom, let’s be _____ and make sure we are prepared and _____.

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