



SNAPSHOTS of the KINGDOM

Exploring the Parables of Jesus

July 19, 2026

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

Question:

How should Jesus' future return shape how we live today?

Key Ideas:

1. **Be prepared for Jesus' return:** *Allow Jesus' future return to shape how you live today.*
2. **Know Jesus.** *Preparation isn't about proving you are good enough, but about belonging to Jesus.*

Application:

1. **Know Jesus more and more deeply:** *Are you actively seeking to know and treasure Jesus more deeply?*
2. **Allow Jesus' future return reorganize your life:** *What is God inviting you to shift in your life?*
3. **Be A Witness:** *What communities has God placed you in? Who specifically in those communities is God calling you to be a witness to? What story has he given you to share?*

Matthew 25:1-13

¹ "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

⁷ "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

⁹ "'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.'

¹⁰ "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.

¹¹ "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!'

¹² "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'

¹³ "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

NOTES:
