The Gospel of MATHEW

Astonishing Promises, Astonishing Fulfillment



MATTHEW 24:45-25:13

The Life of Christ Follower is a Combination of

- > faithful functioning &
- > alert anticipation

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Great Hope of Church is Return of Jesus

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Life in Jesus: Faithful & Wise Service

- 45 "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time?
- 46 It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns.
- 47 Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.
- 48 But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, 'My master is staying away a long time,'
- 49 and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards.
- 50 The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of.
- 51 He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Life in Jesus: Be Wise & Alert

- 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
- 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
- 3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,
- 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.
- 6 But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
- 7 Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.
- 8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
- 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'
- 10 And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.
- 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'
- 12 But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'
- 13 Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. ESV

It's all about fidelity: to our calling by Jesus to be his people and to the anticipation of his return

Our story of awaiting Jesus is not a story of grim determination -- but a story of sweet anticipation