

This parable is a further effort by Jesus to drive home the necessity of watchfulness and the Holy Ghost at His second coming.

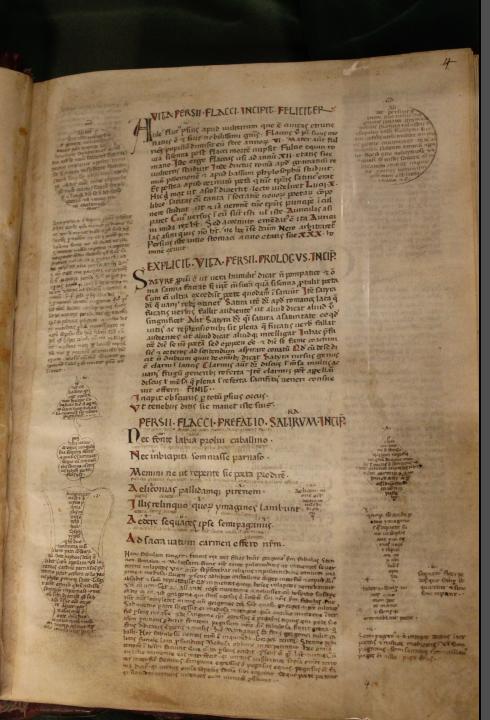
Most importantly, the focus of the parable is on the ten virgins, not the bride. "This parable as well as the next one deals with the Jews in the tribulation period.... [T]he subject matter of the parables of the ten virgins and of the talents is closely connected with Matthew 24:45-51. Jesus is simply providing another illustration, directed especially to the Jews, that stresses the importance of watching for His return." (Toussaint)

"The parables of Jesus give repeated emphasis to the fact that the coming of the kingdom should not be questioned because it is yet future. Even though long periods of time have preceded, and continue to precede, its coming in its consummating dimension, it forever looms large over all (Matthew 21:33-40, 25:1-40). Jesus explains that the owner has taken a "long journey" to a "far country," indicating extended absence before returning.

Nevertheless, return He shall."

(Wilson Nathaniel, J, Ed.D., Apostolic Pentecostal Theology, p. 406)





"Be Ye Full of the Holy Ghost"

In other biblical passages, oil is tied closely to God's Holy Spirit (1 Samuel 16:13; Zechariah 4:2-6), and the same implication is here. The oil pictures something that can't be transferred person to another—and enough oil was the dividing line between those who made it and those who didn't (Luke 4:1; Acts 2:4; 6:3; Ephesians 5:18).

"It was never intended that man should be given a calendar for prophetic events, and that he would know the exact length of time between the first advent of Christ and the second (Matt. 24:36; 25:13; Mk. 13:32). It is part of the spiritual exercise of the believer to have the nearness of Christ's return impressed over and over during times of his devotion."

(Treece, M.D., The Literal Word Revelation, p. 118)