

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

A JOURNEY WITH THE KING



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

The context of Matthew 25 is a continuation of Matthew 24 (25:1). It concerns **the Kingdom of Heaven** _____ and at the end of this Tribulation Period. Matthew 25 begins with a continuation of the conversation about urgency, watchfulness, and readiness for the King's return (24:41-25:1, 13). Jesus illustrates these truths with two beautiful, yet terrifying parables about this time of waiting and watching right before the King's return. To understand these mysterious parables and receive the correct interpretation of them, which God intended for His disciples (13:10-11), we must employ sound rules of Bible study.

THE RETURN OF THE KING (Part 4) – Matthew 25

1. This time of the Kingdom of Heaven will involve Wise and Foolish Virgins – v. 1-13

- Ten virgins wait to meet the Bridegroom who is expected to return from His _____ and call them to join Him at the marriage supper – v. 1-5; Lk. 12:35-38; Rev. 19:9.

The Bridegroom and wedding (22:1-14; 2 Cor. 11:1-2; Eph. 5:22-32; Rev. 19:5-16) =

Ten virgins (Rev. 14:1-6; 17:1, 15-16; 19:2; Ps. 45:13-14; Jn. 3:28-29; 1 Cor. 7:28, 36) =

Lamps with or without oil (Acts 9:15; 2 Cor. 4:7; 1 Sam. 16:13; 1 Jn. 2:27) =

- Five virgins are ready with oil in their lamps while five have used and _____ theirs not being ready for that call – v.3, 6-9; Ps. 51:11; Jud. 16:20; 1 Sam. 16:14, 18:12; Pr. 21:20.
- The virgins who are not _____ at this moment in this time are not permitted to enter the wedding party. They look like the others but are without oil – v. 10-13; Gen. 7:16; Matt. 7:21-23; Rom. 8:9.

2. This time of the Kingdom of Heaven will involve Faithful and Unfaithful Stewards – v. 14-30; Lk. 16:1-2

- A wealthy Lord disperses His riches to servants with _____, trusting that while He is away, they will manage His business – v. 14-18; Lk. 2:49; Jn. 4:34; Matt. 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:18; 1 Thess. 2:4.
- After a _____ absence, their Lord returns and reckons with each servant about their stewardship with His investment – v. 19-25; 18:23-24; Eph. 3:8; 1 Cor. 3:8-13; Rom. 11:33, 14:12; Rev. 5:12.

Know the time and expect the Lord's return (Rom. 13:11) –

Find what God has given you in ministry (talents) and use it –

Some will have a small ministry and some a large ministry (Mk. 14:8) –

What was committed to each of them was _____ to be reproduced (v. 27) –

- The slothful servant of the Lord during this critical time is afraid and _____ his talent in the earth which is unforgivable – v. 25-30; 24:13-14; Pr. 21:25; Rev. 14:12, 21:8.

3. The Kingdom of Heaven is Commandeered by the King – v. 31-46; Dan. 7:13-14; Rev. 11:15

- All _____ (*non-Jewish people in all nations*) will give an account of how they treated the King's _____ during this time – v. 31-40; 24:9, 14; Gen. 12:1-3; Rev. 7:9-14, 11:9; Is. 2:4; Mic. 4:3.

Sheep =

Goats =

- The righteous (*sheep*) and unrighteous (*goats*) from nations who survive this time of tribulation are judged by the _____ for their works, divided, and enter either eternal hell or the eternal reign of the King – v. 41-46; Php. 2:9-11; Is. 9:7; Ps. 41:1-2; Matt. 10:42; Mk. 9:41; Heb. 6:10.