Week 31 – The Return Of The King

1) Am I Keeping Watch For Christ?
2) Am I Faithfully Following Christ?
3) Am I Serving Christ With What He Has Given Me?
4) Am I Serving Christians Whom GOD Has Put Around Me?

Scripture: **Matthew 24:36-25:46**

No One Knows the Day or Hour

36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of [a]heaven, but My Father only. **37** But as the days of Noah *were,* so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. **38** For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, **39** and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. **40** Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. **41** Two *women will be* grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. **42** Watch therefore, for you do not know what [b]hour your Lord is coming. **43** But know this, that if the master of the house had known what [c]hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. **44** Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Faithful Servant and the Evil Servant

45 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food [d]in due season? **46** Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. **47** Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. **48** But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying [e]his coming,' **49** and begins to beat *his* fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, **50** the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for *him* and at an hour that he is not aware of, **51** and will cut him in two and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins

25 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. **2** Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. **3** Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, **4** but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. **5** But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

6 "And at midnight a cry was *heard:* 'Behold, the bridegroom [f]is coming; go out to meet him!' **7** Then all those virgins arose 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, '*No,* lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' **10** And while they

went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

11 "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' **12** But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

13 "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour [g]in which the Son of Man is coming.

The Parable of the Talents

14 "For *the kingdom of heaven is* like a man traveling to a far country, *who* called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. **15** And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. **16** Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. **17** And likewise he who *had received* two gained two more also. **18** But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. **19** After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' **21** His lord said to him, 'Well *done,* good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' **22** He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' **23** His lord said to him, 'Well *done,* good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

24 "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. **25** And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, *there* you have *what is* yours.'

26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. **27** So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. **28** So take the talent from him, and give *it* to him who has ten talents.

29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. **30** And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The Son of Man Will Judge the Nations

31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the [h]holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. **33** And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. **34** Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: **35** for I

was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; **36** I *was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You,* or thirsty and give *You* drink? **38** When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You?* **39** Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' **40** And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.'

41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: **42** for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; **43** I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' **45** Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.' **46** And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."