

PARABLES: THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

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Pastor Steve

The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

John 8:31-32

¹ "The Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps, ⁴ but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. ⁵ When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶ "At midnight they were roused by the shout, 'Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!' ⁷ "All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. ⁸ Then the five foolish ones asked the others, 'Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.' ⁹ "But the others replied, 'We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ "But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked. ¹¹ Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, 'Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!' ¹² "But he called back, 'Believe me, I don't know you!' ¹³ "So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.

Matthew 25:1-13

I) Actors:

A) Five _____ bridesmaids.

B) Five _____ bridesmaids.

C) The _____.

II) Action: _____ for eternity, versus
_____ for eternity.

III) Context: Olivet Discourse. Three Parables: (Matt. 24 & 25)

A) The parable of the wise and evil servants: wait _____ watching for His return.

B) The parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids: wait _____ prepared for His return.

C) The parable of the talents: work _____ while waiting for His return.

"Am I Prepared For Eternity?"

Four Truths About My Eternity:

- I) One day _____ on earth will end.
So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return. Matthew 25:13
- II) What I do in _____ determines where I will spend _____.
- A) The parable of the rich man and Lazarus:
B) ¹⁹ Jesus said, "There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed in purple and fine linen and who lived each day in luxury. ²⁰ At his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. ²¹ As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man's table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores. ²² "Finally, the poor man died and was carried by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³ and his soul went to the place of the dead. There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ "The rich man shouted, 'Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.' ²⁵ "But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish. ²⁶ And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.' Luke 16:19-26
- III) Time is _____ to tell others about Jesus.
- A) ²⁷ "Then the rich man said, 'Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father's home. ²⁸ For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don't end up in this place of torment.' ²⁹ "But Abraham said, 'Moses and the prophets have warned them. Your brothers can read what they wrote.' ³⁰ "The rich man replied, 'No, Father Abraham! But if someone is sent to them from the dead, then they will repent of their sins and turn to God.' ³¹ "But Abraham said, 'If they won't listen to Moses and the prophets, they won't listen even if someone rises from the dead.'" Luke 16:27-31
- B) ²⁴ But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God. Acts 20:24
- IV) _____ is the day to prepare for my eternity.
- A) For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2
- B) The parable of the pearl of great value:

C) ⁴⁵ “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. ⁴⁶ When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it! Matthew 13:45-46

They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved...” Acts 16:31