

# And The Door Was Shut

Matt. 25:6-12

## I. *The Parable of The 10 Virgins* → *Setting*

- Follows admonitions to “watch”.
  - Jerusalem to be destroyed because of its rejection of Jesus. (Matt. 23:36-24:35)
  - The second coming of Jesus. (Matt. 24:36-51)
    - No man knows when. (Matt. 24:36)
    - Watch for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. (Matt. 24:42)
    - Therefore be ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh. (Matt. 24:44)
  - “Watch” → keep awake; be spiritually alert; vigilant
- Precedes teaching admonishing preparedness for the judgment.
  - The parable of the talents. (Matt. 25:14-30); The judgment scene. (Matt. 25:31-46)

## II. *The Parable of The 10 Virgins* → *The Text*

- *Verse 1*
  - Kingdom of heaven is like what takes place in the following account.
    - **Message:** Preparedness is essential, for the time is coming when getting ready will no longer be possible; the door will be shut.
  - Ten virgins (Matt. 1:23; Acts 21:9; I Cor. 7:25; II Cor. 11:2)
  - Took lamps to meet the bridegroom.
    - Under obligation to be well prepared to meet the bridegroom.
    - Have come together to be part of procession that will enter hall of marriage.
- *Verses 2-4*
  - The virgins are divided into two categories: Wise, Foolish
  - How they were alike:
    - All intend to meet the bridegroom
    - All intend to go to the marriage
    - All have lamps
    - None know when the bridegroom will come
  - How they were unlike:
    - The five wise virgins are completely prepared to meet the bridegroom
    - The five foolish virgins are unprepared to meet the bridegroom. Their foolishness consisted in the absence of personal preparation.
- *Verse 5:* The bridegroom tarries. They sleep. (II Pet. 3:4-9; Matt. 24:48)
- *Verse 6:* At midnight they cry is heard to meet the bridegroom ( I Thess. 4:16; 5:2)
- *Verses 7-9*
  - They all arise to trim their lamps.
  - The lamps of the foolish virgins goes out.
  - They ask of the wise, who respond that there will not be enough for both.
  - They advise them to go out and seek to buy more.
- *Verse 10*
  - While they are out, the bridegroom comes.
  - Those that were ready went in with him to the marriage. (Matt. 24:44)
  - The door was shut.
- *Verse 11-13*
  - The five foolish virgins say, “Lord, Lord, open to us”. (Matt. 7:21; Lk. 6:46)
  - He responds, “I know ye not” (Matt. 7:23; II Tim. 2:19)
  - Watch therefore...

### **III. *The Parable of The 10 Virgins* → *Lessons For Us Today***

- The necessity of watchfulness.
  - For false teachers. (Acts 20:28-31)
  - That we enter not into temptation. (Matt. 26:41; I Pet. 5:8)
  - In prayer. (Col. 4:2; I Thess. 5:17)
  - For the spiritual well being of others. (Ezek. 3:17-21)
  - In view of the second coming of Jesus. (Jn. 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; I Thess. 4:13-5:6; II Pet. 3:10-12)
- No one knows when Jesus will return. (Matt. 24:36,44; 25:5)
- The preparation one makes is not transferable to another. We are not saved by “association”. (Matt. 25:9; Rom. 14:12; II Cor. 5:10)
- One day the door will be shut. (Jn. 9:4; Col. 4:3-5)
  - Death. (Heb. 9:27)
  - Second coming. (I Cor. 15:51-52)
  - One may harden their own conscience. (I Tim. 4:2)
- No second chance once the door is shut. (Matt. 25:11-12; Lk. 16:19-31)

### **IV. *The Parable of The 10 Virgins* → *Conclusion***

- Are we wise or foolish when it comes to preparation for the second coming of the Lord?
  - Foolish.
    - Know the Lord is coming but are unprepared.
    - Failing to obey the gospel. (II Thess. 1:7-9)
    - Failing to order our priorities (Matt. 6:33; Col. 3:1-2).
    - Allowing the things of the world to preoccupy our minds (Matt. 24:37-39)
    - Failing to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord. (II Pet. 3:18)
    - Not remaining faithful and steadfast in our lives. (I Cor. 15:58)
  - Wise.
    - Diligently preparing. Growing in grace and knowledge. (II Pet. 1:5-8)
    - Knowing what is to come, and looking for it accordingly. (II Pet. 3:11-14)
    - Looking forward to the coming of Christ with great fondness. (II Pet. 1:10-11; II Tim. 4:6-8)