



STAY ALERT!

➤ The most indispensable teaching about the End Times is Matt. 24:42

➤ Vss. 40 & 41 Fear is not to be a driving force in our lives

➤ **OUR BEHAVIOR REVEALS OUR BELIEF**

➤ The unexpected thief is NOT a Parable

➤ Christ directly connects Himself as the One who comes unexpectedly



FAITHFUL & WISE SERVANT

Matthew 24:45-46

“Who then is a faithful
and wise servant,
whom his master made
ruler over his household,
to give them food
in due season?”

Blessed is that servant
whom his master,
when he comes,
will find so doing.

- “Who is?” means character traits and behaviors of a leader
- John 21:15 – 17
- The servant leader is to dispense wisdom and teach God’s Word of truth
- The reward for faithful service is a greater scope of authority
- The consequence for being unfaithful will be a tortuous death and judgment to ***Gei Hinnom***



YESHUA IS THE SUM OF ALL HIS ATTRIBUTES

- Our leaders extend beyond only Pastors and Rabbis
- God sets a higher and more consequential standard for leaders
- ***Dichotomeo*** = cutting in two
- Does NOT mean punish or cut-off

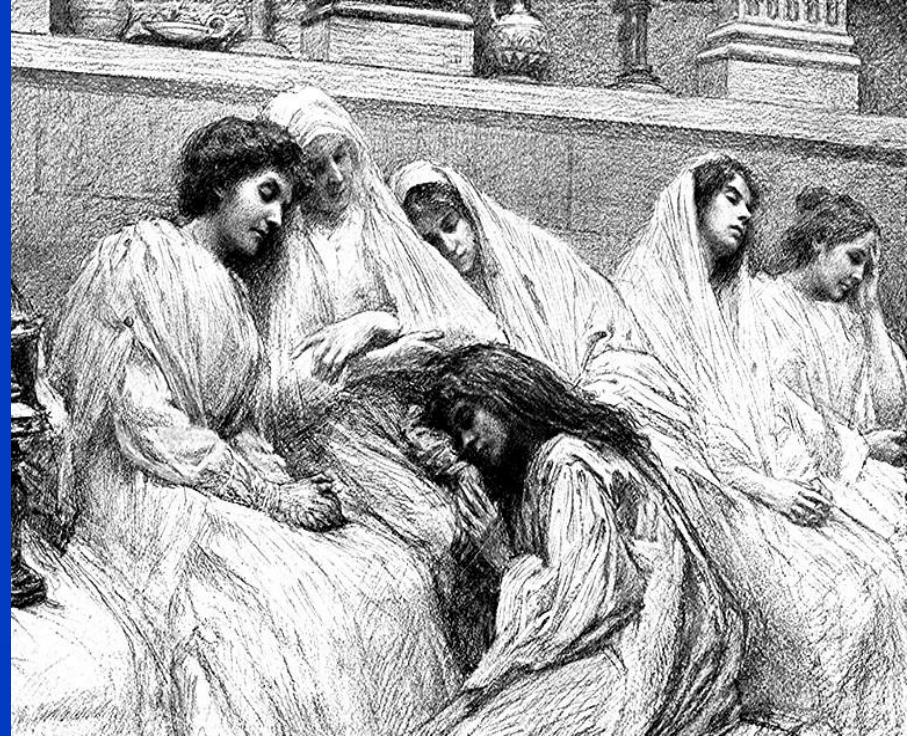
MATTHEW CHAPTER 25



- There is no actual break in the conversation between the end of chapter 24 and beginning of chapter 25
- Parable of the 10 Virgins; we know it's a true Parable because it starts "The Kingdom of Heaven is like...."
- The 10 girls were in the roles of Bridesmaids
- 5 were sensible (wise), 5 foolish (unwise)
- The bridegroom was delayed beyond his expected time of arrival

“...you know neither the day nor the hour...”

- Neither the foolish nor wise did anything wrong by falling asleep
- 5 of the girls didn't bring enough oil and wanted to get some from the girls who brought plenty
- The 5 sensible maidens met the bridegroom and entered into the banquet
- The 5 foolish maidens were shut out



“Lord! Lord!”

- ***Kurios* = *adonai* = lord**
- Matthew 7:21 – 23
- The warnings of Matt. 7 and Matt. 25 are the same warning
- The excluded group **BELIEVED** they were part of the included
- The servant leader had 1 task given to him
- The 10 maidens had 1 task given to them
- The nature of the task isn't the issue; doing or not doing is the issue



IF YOU'RE OUT, YOU'RE OUT



- Proper interpretation must observe the literary rules about Parables
- The various elements are not a series of allegories
- The Parable is NOT “The Messiah is like...”
- It is “The Kingdom of Heaven is like...”
- In this Parable, the bridegroom represents bridegrooms in general
- Other NT passages may better claim that Jesus is the Bridegroom

Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30



- Like the previous Parable, this new one is also about the Kingdom of Heaven being likened to something
- The Jewish view: God is Creator, He owns it all, and we are the caretakers of what our Master owns
- Even though God may not be tangibly present, we are to behave as though He is
- Stewardship = caretaking, not owning

TO EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY

- One servant gets 5 talents, another 2, and another 1
- Luke 19:11 – 28
- A matter of stewardship
- 1 Talent = 50 – 75 pounds of gold or silver
- The man leaves and no one knows when he's returning... but it is known that he will for sure return
- The servants given the 5 and the 2 talents invest the money
- The servant given 1 talent digs a hole and buries it



“I was afraid...”



- Unexpectedly, after a long period of absence, the man returns
- Servant entrusted with 5 talents presented his Master with 10
- Servant entrusted with 2 talents, presented his Master with 4
- Servant entrusted with 1 talent, present his Master with 1
- The Master called his 3rd servant “A wicked, lazy servant”

USING OUR GOD-GIVEN GIFTS AND RESOURCES....TODAY!



- Don't focus too much on Judgment Day and the End Times
- Our task today is to prepare, but also to be helpful, comfort the ill and hurting, and act in faith and generosity
- Fear needs to be set on the shelf