

UNPREPARED

THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS

MATT. 25:1-13



THE STATUS OF THE VIRGINS

*Were all ten virgins
in the kingdom?*

COMMON INTERPRETATION

*Five Wise = In the **Kingdom***

*Five Foolish = In the **World***

"For the gate is *narrow* and the way is *hard* that leads to life, and **FEW are they that find it**" (Matt. 7:14).

"50%" of the world saved?



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PHASEONE

MATT.25:1-5

All ten are **"in the kingdom"** (1).

Five virgins brought their **lamps only** (3).

Five virgins brought a vessel of **extra oil** (4).

The bridegroom was **delayed** in coming (5a).

They all **became drowsy** and **slept** (5b).



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They all ~~became drowsy~~ and ~~asleep~~ (5b).

grew old

died



“But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning them that **fall asleep**; that you sorrow not, even as the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that are **fallen asleep** in Jesus will God bring with him...” (1 Thess. 4:13,14).

They all ~~became drowsy~~ and ~~sleep~~ (5b).

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PHASE TWO

MATT. 25:6,7

But there was a **midnight cry** (6)!

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven, with a **shout**, with the **voice of the archangel**, and with the **trump of God...**” (1 Thess. 4:16a).



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MATT. 25:6,7

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"...the dead...shall rise..." (1 Thess. 4:16b).

"...for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible..." (1 Cor. 15:52).

"...all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice, and shall come forth..." (John 5:28a).



PHASE TWO
MATT. 25:6,7

But there was a **midnight cry** (6)!

And the virgins **arose** (7a)!

And they **trimmed their lamps** (7b).



"[The Lord] will both **bring to light** the hidden things of *darkness*, and **make manifest** the counsels of the hearts..." (1 Cor. 4:5).

"For God will bring *every work* into judgment, with every *hidden thing*..." (Ecc. 12:14).

"But he that does the truth comes to the **light**, *that his works may be clearly seen*, that they have been wrought in God" (John 3:21).



PHASE THREE

MATT. 25:8-10

The oil of the foolish **expired** (8a).

"...and others fell on the **rocky places**, where they had **not much earth**: and *immediately* they sprang up... and when the sun was risen, they were **scorched**" (Matt. 13:5,6a).



PHASETHREE

MATT.25:8-10

The oil of the foolish **expired** (8a).

They tried to **borrow** from the wise (8b).

They tried to **purchase** from the market (9).

While away, the **bridegroom arrived** (10a).

The **wise entered** into the feast (10b).

And **the door was SHUT** (10c).



“Lord, Lord, open to us!”

The foolish **begged for entry** (11).

PHASEFOUR
MATT.25:11,12

*“Many will say to me in that day,
‘**Lord, Lord...**’” (Matt. 7:22).*



“Lord, Lord, open to us!”

PHASEFOUR
MATT.25:11,12

The foolish **begged for entry** (11).

*“Many will say to me in that day,
‘**Lord, Lord...**’” (Matt. 7:22).*

*“Verily I say to you, **I do not know you.**”*

But the bridegroom **denied them** (12).

*“...and then will I profess to them, ‘**I never knew you:** depart from me...’” (Matt. 7:23).*



THE LAMP & OIL

WHAT ARE THEY?

What, exactly, do the
lamps and the **oil**
represent?



THE FOOLISH VIRGINS WHO ARE THEY?

Who are the **foolish** virgins?

“It adds much to the solemnity of the lesson, that by the foolish virgins are meant, not *hypocrites*, much less the *openly ungodly*, but **the negligent** in prayer, **the slothful** in works. Nor is it that they have *no oil at all*; they have *some*, but **not enough**.”¹

¹ Trench, R.C. *Notes on the Parables of Our Lord*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980. p. 86. Print. Emp. and ital. added.



**"Watch, therefore, for you know
neither the *day* nor the *hour*."**

"We must **work the works of him...
**while it is day: night is coming, when
no one can work**" (John 9:4).**



“Unreadiness upon that day is **without remedy**. That which should have been the work of a life cannot be huddled into a moment... **The only certain way of being ready upon that day is that you be ready upon EVERY day.”**

—Augustine

