

# The Ten Virgins

Matt. 25:1-13

Introduction:

- A. Eastern weddings were major social events.
  - 1. Furnished Jesus many illustrations and analogies.
  - 2. Ten virgins were invited guests waiting to be escorted in by bridegroom.
- B. The parable teaches some great lessons of three great subjects:

Discussion:

## **I. The Subject of *Preparation*.**

- A. Abundant preparation versus skimpy preparation (v. 3-4).
  - 1. Danger in “just enough to get by” attitude.
  - 2. New Testament emphasizes abundant service (1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Cor. 8:7; 2 Pet. 1:18).
- B. Constant preparation versus intermittent preparation.
  - 1. Many practice religion in spurts.
  - 2. Must *always* be prepared (cf. 1 Cor. 15:58 Lk. 21:33-36).

## **II. The Subject of *Procrastination*.**

- A. Danger of putting preparation off.
  - 1. Foolish virgins should have used time of slumbering and sleeping (v. 5).
  - 2. Foolish virgins should not have waited to buy oil (v. 10).
- B. Danger of thinking “there is plenty of time yet”.
  - 1. Young often think so — will prepare when older (cf. Eccl. 12:1).
  - 2. Worldly often think so — will prepare after enjoyed all pleasure of sin.
  - 3. Busy often think so — will prepare when get time (cf. Acts 24:25)
- C. Danger of procrastination is three-fold.
  - 1. The lord (or death) could come at any moment (v. 13).
  - 2. The baggage accumulated by sin.
  - 3. The hardened effect of sin (Heb. 3:13)

## **III. The Subject of *Personal Accountability*.**

- A. Foolish could not borrow from wise — wise had not to spare for foolish (v. 6-9).
- B. Each must obey and prepare for himself. (Gal. 6:4-5; 2 Cor. 5:10).
  - 1. Paul could not be saved his relatives (Rom. 9:3)
  - 2. Parents cannot prepare for children — vise versa.
  - 3. Preachers cannot prepare for congregation — vise versa.

Conclusion:

- A. Are you a wise or foolish preparer for the judgement?
- B. Are you planning to get ready someday?
- C. Are you planning to get by on someone’s oil?