

Lesson 28

THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS

References:

Matthew 25:1-13.

Notes For Servants:

- 1.
- 2.

Objectives:

General:

Specific:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Instructions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Bible Verse:

“Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man
cometh.”

(Matthew 25:13)

Lesson:

See Attached Sheets.

The Parable of The Ten Virgins

An alarm sounds in the station. Within seconds, the huge fire engines roar down the street, their sirens screaming. In a matter of minutes they reach their destination, and the fire-fighters jump to their task. A person's life may be at stake, and every moment is precious. Curious people watch the firefighters at work, saving lives and property. They admire the fire-fighters' skill and courage. And they marvel at the speed with which they reached the scene of the blaze. How do they do it?

Fire-fighters spend many long, hard hours preparing for an alarm. They must always be ready for action, because no-one knows when an emergency will arise and a person's life will be threatened. Even a few seconds of lost time can mean the difference between life and death.

In the parable of the ten virgins, Jesus is telling us how important it is for us to be ready to meet God when we die. No person can predict when he or she will die, just as the girls could not predict the coming of the bridegroom, and fire-fighters cannot predict an alarm. All we know is that God calls us to be with Him when He decides we are ready to begin this new life.

Because we do not know when God will call us, we must always be prepared for this meeting with Him. We must not be like the five foolish maidens who were not ready for the bridegroom's arrival, and who were locked out of the wedding feast. Rather, we should be like the five wise maidens who brought oil with their lamps and who were invited into the feast. When God calls us, it will be too late to prepare ourselves to greet Him. We must be ready beforehand.

How do we prepare ourselves? By following the commandments Jesus gave us.

- We must love God with our whole heart, mind, and soul.
- We must love and care for other people.
- We must try to choose good and avoid evil.
- We must prepare ourselves for heaven now, today.

We cannot wait until later, nor can we depend upon others to make us ready to meet God. When the five foolish maidens tried to borrow oil for their lamps, their wise companions refused because there was not enough to lend. We alone are responsible for our souls. When we meet God, we will not be judged for what others have done for us, or by how much they have prayed for us. We will be judged for what we have done- how we have shown our love for God and other people through our actions. We must live with Jesus at the centre of our lives. Then, when we are called by God to be with Him, we will be well-prepared for the heavenly feast.

Conclusion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

“Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”
(Matthew 25:13)