

Here Comes the Bridegroom!
Matthew 25:1-13
Parables and Miracles—Part 21
October 1, 2023

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” --Matthew 24:36

“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.”-- Matthew 24:42

“So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” --Matthew 24:44

“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”
--Matthew 25:13

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ ⁷Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ ⁹‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. ¹¹Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’ ¹²But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’ ¹³Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.” --Matthew 25:1-13

four 21st century lessons from this first century parable:

1. Not everyone who _____ religious is _____ for the return of Christ

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.”
--Matthew 25:1-4

“Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty.”
--Zechariah 4:6

Here are three examples:

Going to _____ is good; _____ to Christ is better

Being _____ is good; being _____ again is better

Giving _____ is good; giving your _____ to Jesus is better

2. You can't _____ someone else's faith—you must _____ your own

“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’
“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’”—Matthew 25:6-9

“The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take ANY oil with them.”
--Matthew 25:3

3. The _____ to follow Christ will one day be _____

“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.” --Matthew 25:10

4. _____ of the danger of _____

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evil doers.’ --Matthew 7:21-23

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” --James 1:22