

## **Mt. 24:45-25:13 JESUS USES PARABLES TO ILLUSTRATE THE NEED OF TRIBULATION BELIEVERS TO BE READY FOR HIS 2<sup>ND</sup> ADVENT**

**Review:** The Olivet Discourse (Mt. 24 & 25) is Jesus' answer to the two questions of his disciples recorded in 24:3. To this point, he has shown:

1. that the end of this age will be characterized by \_\_\_\_\_ via pseudo-Christ's & false prophets, by wars, but also by the \_\_\_\_\_ preaching of the good news of the Kingdom (24:4-14);
2. that two unmistakable signs will precede his 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent:
  - a. 24:15, fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy of the \_\_\_\_\_ that makes desolate the Temple of God in Jerusalem, and,
  - b. 24:21, The Great Tribulation (compare vrs. 29-30);
3. that historically, exegetically, and prophetically, these events are directly related to Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week which is yet future (it is impossible that the destruction of Jerusalem in 70AD fulfilled these prophetic words);
4. that the precise hour of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent will be a surprise to the entire cosmos (24:32-41);
5. that believers in that time are to watch for signs and be ready for Christ's return (24:42-44).

**CONTRAST BELIEVERS OF THE CHURCH AGE: THEY ARE NOT TO LOOK FOR SIGNS, BUT FOR HIS ANY-MOMENT-RETURN.**

### **Mt. 24: 45-51 An Illustration to Encourage that Generation to Faithful-Readiness for Christ's Return**

- v. 45** a lead question introduces the illustration. Note the connective \_\_\_\_\_ (relate to context and v.44)
- v. 46-51** The Illustration: Wise versus Foolish Servants in the Tribulation Period that Illustrate 2 Attitudes About the King's Return to Rule & to Judge

The Wise Slave

Serves faithfully (v. 46)

Rewarded (v. 47)

The Foolish Slave (v. 48)

Does not serve, acts wickedly (v. 49)

Destroyed (v. 50-51)

THE POINT TO THAT GENERATION: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ FOR HIS RETURN!

**Mt. 25: 1-13 Another Illustration to Encourage that Generation  
to Faithful-Readiness for the Lord's Return**

**v. 1** Note the connective “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” ( tote = “then,” “at that time”) **shall the kingdom be likened to ... A NEAR EASTERN WEDDING CONSUMATION INVOLVING 10 VIRGINS”**

3 aspects of this wedding culture:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ period including a formal engagement contract;
2. After a time, a marriage \_\_\_\_\_ at the bride's home;
3. Lastly, a marriage feast at the groom's home. It with this aspect that this parable is concerned.

**v. 2-12** Note The Illustration: **the readiness of 5 wise virgins & the non-readiness of 5 foolish ones**

The Wise Virgins

The Foolish Virgins

Ready with oil/lamps (v. 4)

Not ready (v. 3)

(the bridegroom tarries, v. 5: but his arrival is certain, v.6)

Enter into the wedding feast (v. 10)

Refused entry (v. 11-12)

**v. 13** The Application: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ,” be ready because, though the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent is certain, its exact timing is not (like the bridegroom's arrival).

**Summary & Observations**

1. These illustrations (parables) are directed to believers in the Tribulation Period. Do not pull them out of their contextual relationship (Mt. 24 & 25). And be careful of teaching that does.
2. Never make a parable or an illustration crawl on all fours: keep it related to the context and determine what precisely is being illustrated.
3. The parable of the virgins illustrates spiritual readiness by believers in the Tribulation in view of the certain coming of Christ as indicated by signs.
4. The parabolic-illustration of the faithful slave illustrates obedient service and faithfulness in view of the certain coming of Christ as indicated by signs in the Tribulation period.