

**Providence Reformed Baptist Church – Sunday, January 7, 2024**

**Sermon Series: The Gospel of the Kingdom – Matthew**

**Message 112. “Wise & Foolish Virgins” – Matthew 25:1-13**

**Pastor Phillip M Way**

Intro: Jesus continues the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 25, teaching 3 parables that warn us to watch while we wait with expectant hope for His second coming.

- I. The Three Parables – Matthew 25
  - A. Girls and Their Lamps
  - B. Talents
  - C. Sheep and Goats
  - D. Points in Common
    1. In each case, the return of the Lord is sudden and unexpected.
      - a. False signs: false christs, wars, famine, persecution, apostacy, false prophets/teachers
      - b. When He actually comes, it will be so sudden and unexpected that no sign can be given
    2. In each case the Lord’s return results in an unalterable division between two groups of people.
      - a. Judgment means “division”
      - b. Gk: *krisis* – an event that requires turning one way or the other
    3. In each case the people who are lost are utterly surprised at their rejection by Christ.
      - a. These all think they are saved.
      - b. These are all part of the visible church.
- II. Sensible and Silly Girls – vs. 1-13
  - A. The Wedding Banquet
    1. Bride and Bridegroom
    2. Attendants
    3. Friends and Family
  - B. Ten Unmarried Girls
    1. Some were foolish and silly – unprepared – no oil for their torches
    2. Some were prudent, wise, and sensible – prepared – extra oil on hand
    3. All were invited to the wedding and had accepted – Matt. 13:20-22
    4. All called the Bridegroom “Lord” (see vs. 11, 37, 44)
    5. All fell asleep while waiting – Matt. 26:40-41, 45-46
  - C. The Bridegroom is Coming! Meet Him!
    1. Those with oil were ready but those without oil had torches that were going out
    2. While they were gone to get more oil the feast started and doors were shut
    3. “I do not know you.” – Matt. 7:21-23
- III. Application
  - A. Be Awake = Be Ready
  - B. The Lord will Come without Warning
    1. Being prepared is not transferable, others cannot be ready for you
    2. Last minute preparations will be too late
    3. Keeping awake is more about being ready than disrupting normal routines of life
    4. When ready, one can sleep secure in the knowledge that they are prepared
    5. How can we expect the unexpected? – John 3:3

## **Cross References**

### **Matthew 13:20-22**

20 And the one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

### **Matthew 25:11**

11 And later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.'

### **Matthew 25:37**

37 Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink?'

### **Matthew 25:44**

44 Then they themselves also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?'

### **Matthew 26:40-41**

40 And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? 41 Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

### **Matthew 26:45-46**

45 Then He came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Get up, let us go; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!"

### **Matthew 7:21-23**

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. 22 Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, in Your name did we not prophesy, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name do many miracles?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'

### **John 3:3**

3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."