

**“The Parable of the Ten Virgins” 6/20/10**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

**Studies in the Parables of Jesus**

**Background Context of Jewish Wedding Practice**

- 1) The arrangement** (bride price is paid by father- John 3:16; wedding invitations would go out announcing betrothal if applicable, Matt 22:3)
- 2) The preparation or betrothal period** (wife makes herself ready; would be at least a year and maybe many years- Eph 5:26-27; 2 Corinthians 11:2; husband prepares himself and the home of the new bride- John 14:1-3)
- 3) The fetching of the bride** (the groom would leave father’s house and go fetch the bride who is always in a state of readiness for the big day, 1 Thess 4:13-18; the timing of the fetching was in the hands of the father- Mark 13:32; calling of those invited to come to the feast would occur- Matt 22:3; wedding party would continually grow as they awaited the return of the bride and groom)
- 4) The ceremony of the wedding** (attended by immediate family only, Revelation 19:6-8)
- 5) The wedding feast** (attended by all those who were initially invited and come to the wedding while being given a wedding garment- Matt 22:12; Revelation 19:9)

**POINT 1-** Those maidens that were prepared had intentional READINESS

- A. Their readiness was seen in their willingness to be wise BEFOREHAND (2 Cor 6:2; Matthew 24:42, 44; 25:13; Hebrews 9:27; Luke 12:20)
- B. Their readiness was seen in their loyalty to the BRIDEGROOM (John 14:15, 21; Romans 14:4, 12; Matt 10:34; John 21:21-22)

**Going** *God wants you to focus on you and your preparedness!*  
**Deeper**

**POINT 2-** Those maidens that were not prepared had intentional FOOLISHNESS

- A. The foolishness of the five left them OUTSIDE of God’s KINGDOM (Isaiah 55:6; Matt 7:21-23; 25:14-46; 2 Tim 3:5; Titus 1:16; fool’s hope)

*“Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near” (Is 55:6)*

**Going** *God wants you to evaluate your life and repentance unto good works!*  
**Deeper**