

UNDERSTANDING THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS (MATTHEW 25)

WHAT WENT WRONG WITH 5 FOOLISH VIRGINS?



By

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UNDERSTANDING THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS IN MATTHEW 25.

WHAT WENT WRONG WITH 5 FOOLISH VIRGINS?.

First let me state that there are two schools of thoughts on whether these virgins are representing the church or not.

There is a school of thought that the church is the bride, and the virgins were mere guests in the wedding, not the bride, which means the virgins are not the church. This school of thought makes lot of sense but it contains a lot of eschatology (study about the end time events). I will not dwell on this school of thought because that is not my focus on this note. I might write on this school of thought later. It is beautiful.

However, we are basing this study on the second school of thought that states that the virgins represent the supposed believers. Why will five of them be taken and why will five not taken? What went wrong? The rest of this note is dedicated to answer these questions based on this second school of thought.

1st POINT: THEIR VIRGINITY WAS NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO QUALIFY OR DISQUALIFY THEM.

Virginity is a sign for chastity, morality, religiously acceptable life and good behavior. These two groups did not have any issue with morality, behaviors, chastity, or religious living. They were equally rated as per behavior.

They were not differentiated based on behavior. This will burst your bubbles if you are thinking to be qualified at the end of the day by your behaviors. They will not matter as they did not matter in this case study of the ten virgins.

Rather, they were qualified or disqualified based on whether they were WISE OR NOT WISE... Remember "It is because of him that you are in CHRIST JESUS, WHO HAS BECOME FOR US WISDOM from God--that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption" (1 Corinthians 1:30)

2nd POINT: THEY WERE NOT DIFFERENTIATED BASED ON HOW FERVENT AND WATCHFUL THEY WERE:

"As the bridegroom was delayed, they ALL became drowsy and slept." Matthew 25:5. ALL OF THEM SLEPT. THEY WERE NOT WATCHFUL NOR ALERT.

Even though it is very important to be at alert spiritually and watchful unto prayer. (1 Peter 4:7) However, what differentiated the wise from the foolish virgins was not their watchfulness/ alertness or lack of it. THEY WERE ALL DROWSY AND SLEPT. And that did not disqualify the wise virgins.

So, it is not your alertness or watchfulness that qualify you or disqualify you. HOWEVER, we are supposed to continue to be alert spiritually because it has lots of benefits.

In fact, Jesus ended that parable by saying we should be watchful. And we need to heed to that instruction. WE NEED TO BE WATCHFUL AND PRAYERFUL. However, may we not think for a second that it is our watchfulness or prayer that will qualify us. I once did a note on BEYOND WATCHING AND PRAYING.

3rd POINT: THEY WERE DIVIDED INTO WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS.

Matthew 7:24-27 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a **wise man who built his house on the rock**. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a **foolish man who built his house on sand**. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

A wise man builds his house on the rock. WHO IS THE ROCK?

1 Peter 2: 6 "For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone (ROCK) in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone (ROCK), and the one who trusts in HIM will never be put to shame." - referring to JESUS.

The wise virgins represent those who followed the Words of Jesus by BUILDING THEIR LIVES ON THE ROCK (JESUS HIMSELF).

Whereas, the foolish virgins represent those who, though they heard the words of Jesus, they did not follow it. They did not build their house on the person of JESUS (THE ROCK) and thus they built their house on sands (human achievements, soil, unstable factor).

So, my question at this point, are you a wise virgin or foolish virgin? Are you building your house (hope) on Jesus the Rock OR on your works, behaviors, religious services etc? **THE WISE VIRGINS BUILD ON THE ROCK, THE FOOLISH VIRGINS BUILD ON ANY OTHER THINGS BUT THE ROCK!!!**

4th POINT: THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGIN IS THE OIL.

We will read Matthew 25:3-4 in KJV AND NIV below.

"3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took NO OIL with them: 4But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps." KJV.

"3 The foolish ones took their lamps but DID NOT TAKE ANY OIL with them. 4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps." (NIV)"

SO THE MAIN DIFFERENCE is that those foolish virgins DID NOT TAKE ANY OIL, they only took lamps. Remember, OIL REPRESENTS HOLY SPIRIT (Luke 4:18. Acts 10:38).

So those people did not have the Holy Spirit in them, they only had an outward form of Godliness (lamp) but no Spirit of Godliness.

And Romans 8: 9 says IF ANYONE DOES NOT HAVE THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST, HE IS NONE OF HIS.

When we accept Jesus into our lives, the Holy Spirit comes into us and dwell in us. He is Our Seal until the day of the redemption of Our body. So every believer has indwelling Holy Spirit in us. But those who are not truly born again don't have the Holy Spirit in them and that is the difference between wise and foolish virgins.

Read those Scriptures below:

"Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit." John 3:5

"Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." Galatians 4:6

"...Rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to Sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." Romans 8:15

"....and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit" 1Corinthians 12:3

".....And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ" Romans 8:9

SO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO SETS OF VIRGINS IS THAT THE FOOLISH VIRGINS DID NOT HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT, SO THEY ARE NOT ACTUALLY CHRISTIANS BUT THEY WERE RELIGIOUS, THEY HAD THE LAMP (RELIGION) BUT NO OIL (NOT SAVED).

They have a form of godliness (the lamp) but did NOT have the spirit of Godliness. They are closely associated with Christians. They are church-ed. They are highly religious, BUT THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

WHAT THE BRIDEGROOM SAID MAKES IT VERY CLEAR: Read below.

Mathew 25;11-12 "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' **But he answered, 'TRULY I say unto you, I DO NOT KNOW YOU'**

Period. He did not say any other things beyond that. That was the problem!!!

He did NOT say "You are not living right or prayerful or watchful; " He simply said "I DO NOT KNOW YOU. YOU HAVE NO RELATIONSHIP WITH ME. You are not born again. You don't have the Spirit."

Remember "...**The Lord knows those who are HIS....** " (2 Timothy 2:19)

Jesus also said "**I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me**" (John 10:14)

Since the Lord knows those who are HIS, if He did not know them, shows they were not His. Period!!!

SO, IF YOU ARE TRULY BORN AGAIN, YOU ARE KNOWN BY THE LORD, YOU HAVE OIL (HOLY SPIRIT) IN YOU, AND HE IS COMING BACK FOR YOU. YOU ARE AMONG THE WISE VIRGINS" That is it!!!

DISPROVING THE THEORY OF EXTRA OIL:

Religion has taught this parable using EXTRA OIL, as against OIL, thereby rendering it that all the virgins had Holy Spirit, only that the foolish did not have enough Holy Spirit to keep burning until the Master comes...

THIS THEORY IS NOT TRUE based on the context:

Proof 1: THE BIBLE WAS CLEAR THAT THE FOOLISH VIRGIN HAD NO OIL according to Matthew 25:3. It does not say no extra oil. They had no oil at all. Not in the lamp, not in the bottle.

The original Greek version was clear on that, the same with all the versions interpreted directly from the Greek version: KJV, NIV, ESV, etc...

"3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took NO OIL with them: 4But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps." KJV.

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Proof 2: HOW MUCH OF EXTRA OIL WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH?

Assuming the Groom delayed much longer, was it not possible that even the SO CALLED EXTRA OIL of the wise virgins would have finished before He came. How much extra oil is enough? That simply proves that it is NOT about extra oil.

If you need the extra oil, then you can never know when you have done enough, because you don't know how long the bridegroom may take. Oh may be if he delayed more, all of them would have their oil out!!!!!! That is how ridiculous the extra oil theory is when you think about it.

Proof 3: HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON, AND HE IS GIVEN WITHOUT A MEASURE (LIMITLESSLY) IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. Read below:

"For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit." John 3:34

And Jesus said "As the Father sent me, so I sent you" He gave us the Spirit without measure, to live with us forever.

So, in the New Testament, there is NO such thing as double portion of anointing or extra anointing or extra oil. HOLY SPIRIT IS RESIDENT IN EVERY BELIEVER AND HE IS NOT INCREASING OR DECREASING.

The concept of BEING FILLED with the Spirit has to do with believers immersing Himself into the Holy Spirit, it is the believer who is affected, NOT THAT GOD POUR MORE HOLY SPIRIT TO FILL US.

When I am filled with the Spirit, I YIELD MYSELF MORE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT TO EXPRESS HIMSELF THROUGH ME" But the Oil itself does not increase not decrease, and no extra Oil.

Proof 4: THEY DID NOT LIGHT THEIR LAMPS BEFORE THE GROOM CAME ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE. Religion says they did, but not in the Bible.

.7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

I checked the Greek version, the word used for trim in verse 7 is "kosmeo" it actually means make ready, to prepare, to adorn or garnish. not really trim the way the translations rendered it.

So verse 7 can be more accurately written as "They prepared, made ready or garnished their lamps". Which means the lamp were not working before the Groom came. They just made it ready at that time.

However, after preparing their lamps, the foolish virgins discovered they had NO OIL, only lamp. They tried to light the lamp too, by putting fire on the "WICKS". Remember wicks can sustain light without oil but for a short time. You can actually light a lamp without oil, because wicks are like wood or papers, they can catch fire too, only it will soon burn off when there is no oil.

That was what happened, and then it didn't take long before their wicks burnt off and their lamps were going out. And then tried to share the Salvation and Holy Spirit with the Wise. WHICH IS IMPOSSIBLE.

So clearly, the parable of the Virgins is this simple, when read in context. THE ISSUE WAS ISSUE OF OIL AND ASSUMPTION THAT YOU ARE A BELIEVER WHEN YOU ARE NOT.

If you are reading this post, and you are not sure you are a Child of God. May be you are highly churched and religious. May be your parents are pastors and you naturally assume you are a Child of God. May be you are just religious. You have the lamp. You associate with Believers but you don't have the Spirit of Sonship. He does not know you. You have not consciously made a decision to accept JESUS into your life.

Please, do not be foolish. You might have known so much about Jesus that you can preach Him. **But receiving the Knowledge of the Truth does not save you, receiving THE PERSON OF THE TRUTH (JESUS) IS WHAT WILL SAVE YOU.**

You must make a conscious decision to accept Jesus into your life and I will advise you do that today. Jesus died to save you and to forgive all your sins no matter how many they are. And He will free you from the power of sin as well. All you need to do is to repent from your sins, and from your dead works, trying to get God's approval by your actions. And repent unto accepting His own divine provision: JESUS CHRIST.

"If you declare with your MOUTH, "Jesus is Lord," and BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." Romans 10:9 - 10.

BUT IT MUST BE FROM YOUR HEART. YOU MUST MEAN IT. CONFESSING JESUS AS THE LORD HAS NO EFFECT IF YOU DONT BELIEVE HIM IN YOUR HEART.

Do it right now. Believe Him in your heart right now. Mean it. Consciously accept all He did for you right now. And then SAY IT OUT that you believe in Him and accept Him into your life as your LORD. And thank Him for forgiving your sins and quietly acknowledge Holy Spirit into your heart. Glory to God.

If you took the above step from your heart, you just became a child of God. God has just given birth to you now and He has given you His Spirit to dwell in your heart forever. You have become like one of the wise virgins and Jesus is coming for you. Start relating with the Holy Spirit by talking and listening to Him. Start growing in your knowledge of Him by studying the Word of God regularly. **ALSO, PLEASE SEND ME A PRIVATE MESSAGE THROUGH INBOX TO INFORM ME AND I WILL WALK ALONGSIDE YOU TO YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH.**

If you are already a believer, do not be moved that you could be one of the foolish virgins. No, YOU ARE THE WISE ONE, JESUS HAS BEEN MADE UNTO YOU WISDOM. You have the Oil of God in you without measure and He can never run dry. Keep growing in your knowledge of Him. Keep fellowshiping with the Holy Spirit regularly so as to enjoy His ever abiding presence.

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, THAT IS YOUR IDENTITY, THEREFORE LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE SO THAT ALL MEN WILL SEE YOUR LIGHT AND GLORIFY YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER WHEN THEY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS. BUT NEVER DEFINE YOURSELF BY THOSE GOOD WORKS. YOU ARE A CHILD OF GOD, BY HIS GRACE, NOT BY YOUR DEEDS. ENJOY YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AS YOUR FATHER TO THE FULL!!!

Remember, YOU CAN ONLY BE BLESSED IN JESUS AND THE ONLY WAY IS FORWARD. YOU ARE GRACIOUSLY STUCK WITH HIM!!!

For more help and other resources to help you grow in the Grace of the Lord Jesus, Or if you have someone you regard as a notorious sinner and want him/her to be reached with the Gospel, please contact me in the email below:

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