## Matthew 25:1-13 **Ten Virgins – Kingdom of Heaven**

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' 7 "Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 "But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' 10 "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' 12 "But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

13 "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming. NKJV

## Facts Revealed:

- The subject is to Watch for the Coming of the Lord at the Time of the End.
  - → The illustration of the **Ten Virgins** is the same as the illustration of the **Two Servants**.

    [Matthew 24:45-51, 25:1-13]
  - ♦ Both are directed toward the time of the Return of the Lord for His Church.
- The Ten Virgins represent the Church, those who have been invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb. (the guests are not the bride, for the bride invites the guests to come). [Revelation 22:17]
  - ♦ The virgins went out to meet the Bridegroom who was to come for them.
  - ♦ They all took lamps that were lighted and burning.
  - ♦ The wise took extra oil for their lamps.
  - ♦ The foolish took only the oil that was in the lamps.
  - ♦ The Bridegroom was delayed in coming.
  - ♦ The ten virgins all slumbered and slept.
  - ♦ When the cry was heard proclaiming the coming of the Bridegroom, the virgins all arose and trimmed their lamps.
  - ♦ The foolish needed oil for their lamps because for lack of oil the lamps were going out.
  - ♦ The foolish could not get oil from the wise and had to go to find some from another source.
  - ♦ The Bridegroom came and those who were ready went in to the wedding feast with Him.
  - ♦ The door was closed.
  - ❖ The unprepared then came and wanted in, but were sent away with the words, "I do not know you."
- The members of the Church received the invitation at the time they heard the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven and believed.
  - ♦ The ten are all virgins and viewed as equal in the Church.
  - ♦ They are all expecting the Lord to come for them as He has promised.
  - ♦ They all have gone out to watch for His return.
  - ♦ The wise had the extra oil of commitment for the long haul, and are able to remain faithful and expectant however long it takes for Him to come.
  - ❖ The foolish were only prepared for the immediate present and were not able to remain steadfast for the long time of waiting.

- ♦ As time dragged on, their endurance ran out.
- ♦ When the time finally came for His arrival, those who were ready went in, but those who were unprepared were not able to enter.
- ♦ When Jesus comes for His Saints, it is too late to get ready.
  - ™ No one will be able to enter because of the preparation of anyone else, we will each be required to answer for our own choices and faithfulness to endure to the end. [Matthew 10:22, 24:13, Mark 13:13]
- ♦ As Jesus had indicated by the teaching of the "one taken and the other left" [Matthew 24:40-42], when He does come, not everyone in the Church will be taken to meet the Lord in the air, but only those who He views as being worthy. [Matthew 7:21-23, 20:16, 22:14, Luke 13:23-30, 21:36]
- ♦ There are areas of qualification God will take into consideration in selecting the ones to be taken and the ones to be left behind. [Zephaniah 2:3, Malachi 3:16-18, Luke 21:36, 1 Thessalonians 5:4-9, Hebrews 12:25, 2 Peter 2:1-9, Revelation 3:10]

## The Point of the message

♥ "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming." [Matthew 24:42, 44, 25:13, Mark 13:33, 34, 35, 37, Luke 12:37, 21:36, Acts 20:31, 1 Corinthians 16:13, Ephesians 6:18, 1 Thessalonians 5:6, 2 Timothy 4:5, 1 Peter 4:7, Revelation 3:2-3, 16:15]