

# Prophecy Unveiled - Matthew 25

Saturday, December 4, 2021

3:30 PM

Our ground rules for studying prophecy...

- **There is much we can learn from studying prophecy**
- **There is much that will still be unclear** (It is best for us to focus on what we can know rather than argue about what is still unclear)
- **The point of studying prophecy is not to be able to set times and dates**
- **By studying prophecy we can become more aware of the devils schemes and the world in which we live.**
- **Prophecy helps us be prepared**
- **We must keep in mind that prophecy must be examined from three different viewpoints** (The Past - prophecy that has already been fulfilled, The Present - Prophecy that is currently unfolding, and The Future - Prophecy that is yet to be fulfilled) In some cases a particular prophecy may have application to all three.

Prophecy is like a multi-faceted diamond. We can view it from many different angles and learn something new from each one and yet, it also must be viewed as a whole

You'll remember that the main prophetic point of Matthew 24 was for us to be ready.

**Be Ready for Distressing Times**

**Be Ready for Persecution of The Church**

**Be Ready for False Prophets and Messiahs**

**Be Ready for Wickedness to Increase Exponentially**

**Be Ready for Complacency**

**Be Ready for Many To Walk Away From The Faith**

**Be Ready for a Great End Times Revival**

**Be Ready for The Rise of The Antichrist Followed by The Great Tribulation**

**Be Ready for The Return of Our Lord and The Rapture of The Church**

**Be Ready for Mystery to Remain Mixed with Understanding**

**Be Ready by faithfully Continuing to Serve**

**Be Ready for Final Judgement**

Matthew 25 continues dealing with the prophecies of the last days and our need to be ready by using three different parables, each of which deals with an aspect of a real relationship with Jesus and how it prepares us to be ready for his return

## Matthew 25

### The Parable of the Ten Virgins

25 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 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. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

6 “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

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.’

9 “‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

10 “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

11 “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

12 “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

### The Parable of the Bags of Gold

14 “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

19 “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

22 “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

23 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

24 “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

26 “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

28 ““So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

### The Sheep and the Goats

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

37 “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

40 “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

44 “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

45 “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

46 “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

The big diamond of Matthew 25 is RELATIONSHIP

## 1. A real relationship is PERSONAL

### The Parable of the Ten Virgins

25 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 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. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

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11 “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

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13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

- They all had a knowledge of the Bridegroom
- The oil represents the power and presence of the Holy Spirit
- They all became drowsy (we can't do this without the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives)
- Someone else's relationship with Christ won't make us ready

## 2. A real relationship GROWS

### The Parable of the Bags of Gold

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- The bags of gold represent the gifts that God has given us in order to grow in our relationship with him
- Gold always represents the things of God
- Like the parable of the seed and the Sower, some people will never go any deeper in their knowledge of Jesus Christ and their relationship with him
- We may not all have the same opportunities but we all have something. Notice the master in the parable gave gold to each servant
- Once again we see the fact that there will be a final judgment

### 3. A real relationship PRODUCES FRUIT

#### The Sheep and the Goats

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

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44 “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

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- Fruit speaks of the outworking of a relationship with Christ
- Fruit means that our actions match our beliefs
- Fruit ministers to Jesus by ministering to others
- Fruit draws others to Jesus