

August 12, 2018

Matthew 25:1-30

How to Be Prepared

- There is a group who will be caught off guard at the sudden return of the Master (v. 48-51).
- In chapter 25, Jesus concludes his last sermon with a series of parables that further illustrate the need to be prepared for his return.

The Parable of the Ten Virgins (v. 1-13)

- All of the preparations for the marriage have been made. All that awaits is the return of the Bridegroom for his bride from his Heavenly home.
- The exact day of his return is uncertain, but the fact of His return is certain.

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am

Acts 1:11 *"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."*

- However, the return of the Bridegroom seems to be on hold.
- Jesus' point: the necessity of vigilance.

The Parable of the Talents (v. 14-30)

- During this inter-advent period, God has equipped each of His servants with particular talents or gifts that are to be used.
- It is the landowner's personal prerogative to distribute His talents to His servants as He wills (**1 Cor. 12:4-6, 11**).

- Upon the return of the landowner, each of the servants will be called to give an account of how he used His talents.

- Our deeds will be involved in how God judges us.