

## **TOO LATE!**

Matt. 25:1-13

The Parable of the Ten Virgins was taught by Jesus. The parable concerns the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. The first coming of Jesus was to save mankind from sin. The Second Coming will be to judge the world.

This parable emphasizes the necessity of spiritual preparation for Christ's coming. The uncertainty of the time of Christ's Second Coming produces urgency in preparation for it.

I. **The Figure Behind the Parable.** The figure is that of virgin-attendants on a Bride. Their duty was to go forth at night with lamps and be ready on the appearance of the Bridegroom, to conduct the Bride to his house. All would then go in with the Bridegroom to the marriage.

II. **The Focus of the Parable.** Jesus taught that five of the virgins were foolish and five were wise. The foolish virgins did not take any extra oil for their lamps and, consequently, were unprepared. They had oil in their lamps, but not enough to cover the time of delay. The wise virgins took oil in their lamps and also took extra oil. They were prepared. What dear friend is missing in your preparation for the coming of the King? Is your life stamped: incomplete? Have you obeyed the Gospel? Are you faithfully serving the Lord?

III. **The Finish.** The foolish virgins had to go and purchase more oil. The Bridegroom came while they were away. When they arrived, it was too late! How shocking to think how close some may venture to eternal life and still miss it! The wise virgins entered the marriage feast and shared in communion with the King.

You can wait until it is too late to prepare for Christ's return!