

**READY OR NOT...**  
**Matthew 25:1-13**

**Three Important Truths:**

**1. Not All “Believers” Are \_\_\_\_\_**

- Verses 2-4, “Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however took oil in jars along with their lamps.”
- The five foolish virgins should’ve known that they needed much more than just the initial infilling of their lamps.
- Matthew 24:44, “So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”
- Spiritual readiness comes as a result of intentional holy habits.

**2. You Can’t Rely On \_\_\_\_\_**

- Verses 6-9, “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ ‘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.’”
- Another person’s faith will not cover your shortfall.
- God has no grandchildren, only children
- You may have a great heritage, but you need to make that heritage your own personal experience.

**3. There Will Come A Time When \_\_\_\_\_**

- Verses 10-13, “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. Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’ But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’ Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”
- William Willimon, “Jesus viewed history as a straight line with a beginning and an end... Today’s contented liberal church does not care for that view. Its members do not want to be reminded, even though they know its true, that someday there will be a reckoning, and no tomorrow.”
- Genesis 7:13-23, “...Then the Lord shut him in...” “...Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth.”

*Luke 13:24-27*

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