

IMPACT THAT STAYS READY - NOTES

Matthew 25:1–13

1. “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.

MAIN THOUGHT:

The greatest evidence of obedience is remaining spiritually ready when Jesus seems delayed.

UNDERSTANDING THE PARABLE

- The **bridegroom** represents **Christ**.
- The **ten virgins** represent **believers** waiting for **Christ**.
- The **lamps** represent **outward profession of God’s Word**.
- The **oil** represents a **genuine, living relationship with God** through the **Holy Spirit** that cannot be **borrowed** or **transferred**.

- The **delay** represents the **time** between Christ's **ascension** and His **return**.
- The **midnight** cry represents His **unexpected return**.
- The **closed door** represents the **final judgment**.

POINT 1: OBEDIENCE PREPARES YOU BEFORE THE MOMENT ARRIVES

Matthew 25:3-4

IMPACT LINE:

- Obedience today prepares you for tomorrow's unknowns.

POINT 2: REMAINING VIGILANT IS A DAILY DECISION

Matthew 25:5

Matthew 25:6-7

IMPACT LINE:

- The midnight cry doesn't create readiness, it reveals it.
- What you do before Christ returns determines whether you'll be ready when He arrives.

POINT 3: SOME THINGS CANNOT BE BORROWED

Matthew 25:8-9

IMPACT LINE:

- Your relationship with Jesus must become your own.

POINT 4: DON'T BECOME DISTRACTED DURING DELAY

IMPACT LINE

- Waiting is not wasted when it deepens your faithfulness.

POINT 5: THERE WILL COME A DAY WHEN THE DOOR CLOSES

Matthew 25:10-13

WHAT DOES SPIRITUAL READINESS LOOK LIKE?