

BEFORE THE GLORIOUS THRONE OF THE KING

Matthew 25:1-46

Key Verse: 25:31-32

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 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.”

1. What did Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven to (1)? What do the words “foolish” and “wise” tell us about the virgins [bridesmaids] (2; 24:45)? How was this reflected in their preparation for the bridegroom’s coming (3-9)? What does the bridegroom’s delay suggest (5)?
2. When the bridegroom arrived, who was ready and who was not (10)? Why did the bridegroom refuse to allow the foolish to enter (11-12)? Based on the parable, how can you keep watch (13)?
3. What did the master entrust to each of his servants before leaving on a journey (14-15)? What does this tell us about the relationship of the master and servants? What did each man do with the gold entrusted to him, and with what result (16-18)?
4. When the master returned to settle accounts, how did the servants respond (19-20, 22, 24-25)? How did the master praise and reward his good and faithful servants (21, 23)? How did the master deal with the wicked, lazy servant (26-30)? How should we prepare for Jesus' coming (29)?
5. Read verses 31-32. What does this tell us about Jesus? Who will be gathered before him and what will he do with them (32b-33)? What is the inheritance of the blessed (34)? What did the King remember them doing for him (35-36)? Why did they not remember serving the King (37-39)? How did the King regard what they had done (40)?
6. How does the King deal with the cursed and why (41-46)? In light of this passage, how should we see vulnerable and needy people? How should we prepare for Jesus’ coming?