

THE MIDNIGHT CRY

Matthew 25:1-13

INTRODUCTION:

- A. There's a great day coming; a day unlike any other great day in the history of the world.
- B. The greatest day in the history of the world will be the day Jesus comes back.
- C. We must live every day knowing we are ready to meet Jesus (Matt. 24:3-4).

WE DO NOT KNOW AT WHAT MOMENT JESUS IS COMING AGAIN (Matt. 25:1-8)

- A. The bridesmaids knew the bridegroom was coming, they just did not know when he was coming.
- B. We know Jesus is coming back a second time (Jn. 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; I Thess. 4:16-17; Mt. 25:13; 24:36).
- C. If we are not prepared for Jesus' return right now, we are taking a risk that's not worth taking (Lk. 12:16-21).

WE CANNOT SHARE OUR PREPARATION WITH OTHERS (Matt. 25:9)

- A. The prepared bridesmaids wouldn't share their extra oil with the unprepared bridesmaids.
- B. No matter how much we love and care for someone else, we cannot share our preparation to meet Jesus with them (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Acts 16:31-33).
- C. We cannot ride into heaven on the coattails of others (our family history, background, etc.).

WHEN JESUS FINALLY COMES AGAIN, IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO PREPARE (MATT. 25:10-12)

- A. The bridesmaids who were unprepared pleaded for the door to be opened to them.
- B. There is nothing anyone can do once the door shuts; everything will be final (Lk. 16:26).
- C. For those who miss out on heaven there will be an eternity of regret (Lk. 16:25).

THOSE WHO MISS OUT ON HEAVEN WILL HAVE NO ONE TO BLAME BUT THEMSELVES (MATT. 25:13)

- A. All the bridesmaids had lamps and oil and were given the opportunity to participate in the wedding celebration.
- B. The gift of salvation and hope of heaven is readily available to everybody (Jn. 3:16; Acts 10:34-35).
- C. We must do what is necessary to be prepared for the bridegroom's return.

CONCLUSION:

- A. We don't know when Jesus is coming back, but we do know He is coming back and we better be ready.
- B. We must keep watch and live knowing we are ready to meet Jesus (I Jn. 2:28; 5:13).
- C. Do you live each day knowing you are ready to meet Jesus?