

EXPERIENCING THE KING LIVING OUT THE KINGDOM

THE STUDY OF MATTHEW

Ready for the King

Matthew 24.36 - 25.46
Snr Pastor Beh Soo Yeong



Matthew 24.1-3

³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

1. Precursors
2. Destruction of the temple
3. Return of the King



angels⁹ with a loud trumpet call,^h and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

³²“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ³³Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it^o is near, right at the door. ³⁴Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.^k

The Day and Hour Unknown

24:37-39pp — Lk 17:26,27
24:45-51pp — Lk 12:42-46

³⁶“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,^b but only the Father.^l ³⁷As it was in the days of Noah,^m so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage,ⁿ up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left.^o ⁴¹Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.^p

⁴²“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming,^q he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴So you also must be ready,^r because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

⁴⁵“Who then is the faithful and wise servant,^s whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. ⁴⁷Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.^v ⁴⁸But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, ‘My master is staying away a long

24:31 Mt 13:1; h Isa 27:13; Zec 9:14; 1Co 15:52; 1Th 4:16; Rev 8:2; 10:7; 11:15; 24:33 Jas 5:5; 24:34; Mt 16:28; 23:36; 24:35 Mt 5:1; 24:36 Ac 17:24; 37 Mt 6:7; 7:6-23; 24:38; Mt 22:30; 24:40; Lk 17:34; 24:41 P Lk 17:5; 24:42; Mt 25:13; Lk 12:40; 24:43 Lk 12:9; 24:44 1Th 5:6; 4:45; Mt 25:21, 23; 4:46; Rev 16:15; 4:47; Mt 25:21, 23; 4:49; Lk 21:34; 4:51 Mt 8:1; 5:1 Mt 13:24; Lk 12:35-38; c 20:8; Rev 4:5; Rev 19:7; 21:2; 25:2 Mt 24:5; 25:5 1Th 5:6; 25:8 Lk 12:3; 25:10 Rev 19:9; 25:13; Mt 24:42, 44; Mk 13:35; Lk 12:40; 25:14; Mt 21:33; Lk 19:12; 25:15; Mt 18:24, 25

time,^u and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards.^w ⁵⁰The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. ⁵¹He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.^x

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

25 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like^y ten virgins who took their lamps^z and went out to meet the bridegroom.^a ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise.^b ³The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.^c

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. ⁸The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’^d

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.^e 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.^f

The Parable of the Bags of Gold

25:14-30Ref — Lk 19:12-27

¹⁴“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey,^g who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,^h each according to his ability.ⁱ Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶The

^a 33 Or he ^b 36 Some manuscripts do not have nor the Son. ^c 15 Greek five talents . . . two talents . . . one talent; also throughout this parable; a talent was worth about 20 years of a day laborer’s wage.

man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.^j ²⁰The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things.^k Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²²“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things.^k Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

²⁸“‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.^l ³⁰And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

The Sheep and the Goats

³¹“When the Son of Man comes^m in

25:19 Mt 18:23; 25:21 Lk 23; Mt 24:45, 47; Lk 16:10; 25:23 Mt 25:25; 25:29; Mt 13:12; Mk 4:25; Lk 8:18; 19:26; 25:30; Mt 8:12; 25:31; Mt 16:27; Lk 17:30; Mt 19:28; 25:32; Mal 3:18; Eze 34:17, 20; 25:34 Mt 3:2; 5:3, 10, 19; 19:14; Ac 20:32; 1Co 15:50; Gal 5:21; Jas 2:5; Heb 4:3; 9:26; Rev 13:8; 17:8; 25:35; Job 31:32; Isa 58:7; Eze 18:7; Heb 13:2; 25:36; Isa 58:7; Eze 18:7; Jas 2:15; 16 Jas 1:27; 2Ti 1:16; 25:40; Pr 19:17; Mt 10:40, 42; Heb 6:10; 13:2; 25:41 Mt 7:23; Isa 66:24; Mt 3:12; 5:22; Mk 9:43, 48; Lk 3:17; Jude 7; 2Pe 2:4; 25:45 Pr 14:31; 17:5; 25:46; Mt 19:29; Jn 3:15, 16, 36; 17:2, 3; Ro 2:7; Gal 6:8; 5:11, 13, 20 Da 12:2; Jn 5:29; Ac 24:15; Ro 2:7; 8; Gal 6:8; 26:1 Mt 7:28

his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne.^o ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate^p the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.^q ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom^r prepared for you since the creation of the world.^s ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,^t ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me,^u I was sick and you looked after me,^v I was in prison and you came to visit me.’^w

³⁷“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’^x

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me,^y you who are cursed, into the eternal fire^z prepared for the devil and his angels.^a ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

⁴⁴“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

⁴⁵“He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’^b

⁴⁶“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.^{c,d}

The Plot Against Jesus

26:2-5pp — Mk 14:1,2; Lk 22:1,2

26 When Jesus had finished saying all these things,^e he said

Matthew 24.36-25.46

1. Be watchful (Mt 24.36-44, 25.1-13)

2. Be faithful (Mt 24.45-51, 25.14-30)

3. Do good (Mt 25.31-46)

1. Be watchful bec we do not know when (Mt 24.36-44)

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1. Be watchful bec we do not know when (Mt 25.1-13)

“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.**



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⁶ “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

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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.’

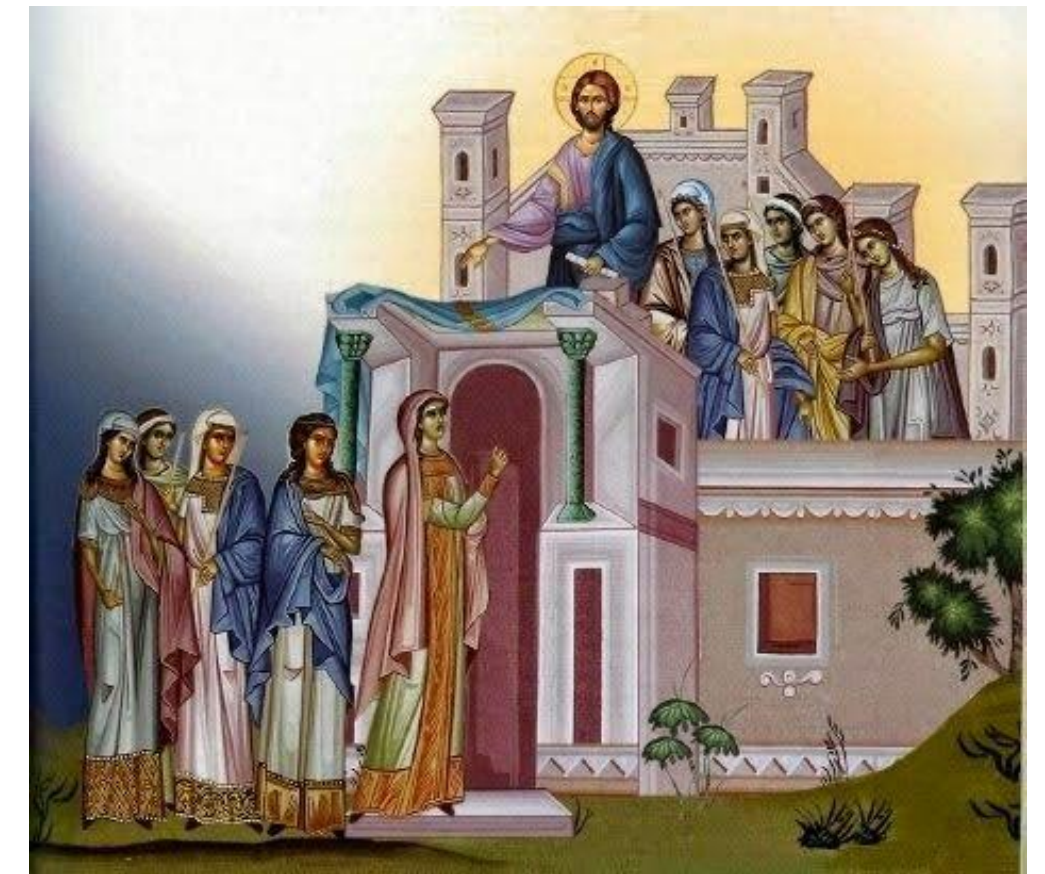
1. Be watchful bec we do not know when (Mt 25.1-13)

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¹³ “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.



Implications

1. Are we ready for the King by being watchful?

- Unpredictable, may take longer than expected
- Make preparations wisely, ahead of time
- Not last minute scramble
- Where is your heart's desire?
- Discipleship, spiritual growth?



2. Be faithful bec we are his servants (Mt 24.45-51)

⁴⁵ “Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. ⁴⁷ Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.



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⁴⁸ But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, 'My master is staying away a long time,' ⁴⁹ and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. ⁵⁰ The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. ⁵¹ He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.



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Implications

2. Are we ready for the King by being faithful?

- Not just watching, but also working
- As servants, do we know the master's mission?
- How are we investing our talents for the kingdom?
- Discipleship takes risk & obedience
- Are we willing to pay the price?



3. Do good bec we are his people (Mt 25.31-46)

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² 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. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.



3. Do good bec we are his people (Mt 25.31-46)

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³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

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44 “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

45 “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

46 “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”



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Implications

2. Are we ready for the King by doing good?

- We will face judgment – all of us
- Doing good as evidence of our faith
- Do we do good to others, esp to our brothers and sisters in Christ (cf. precursors)?



Conclusion

- **Expect the precursors (incl. distress and tribulation)**
- **Expect the King's imminent return**
- **Be ready – be watchful, faithful and doing good**