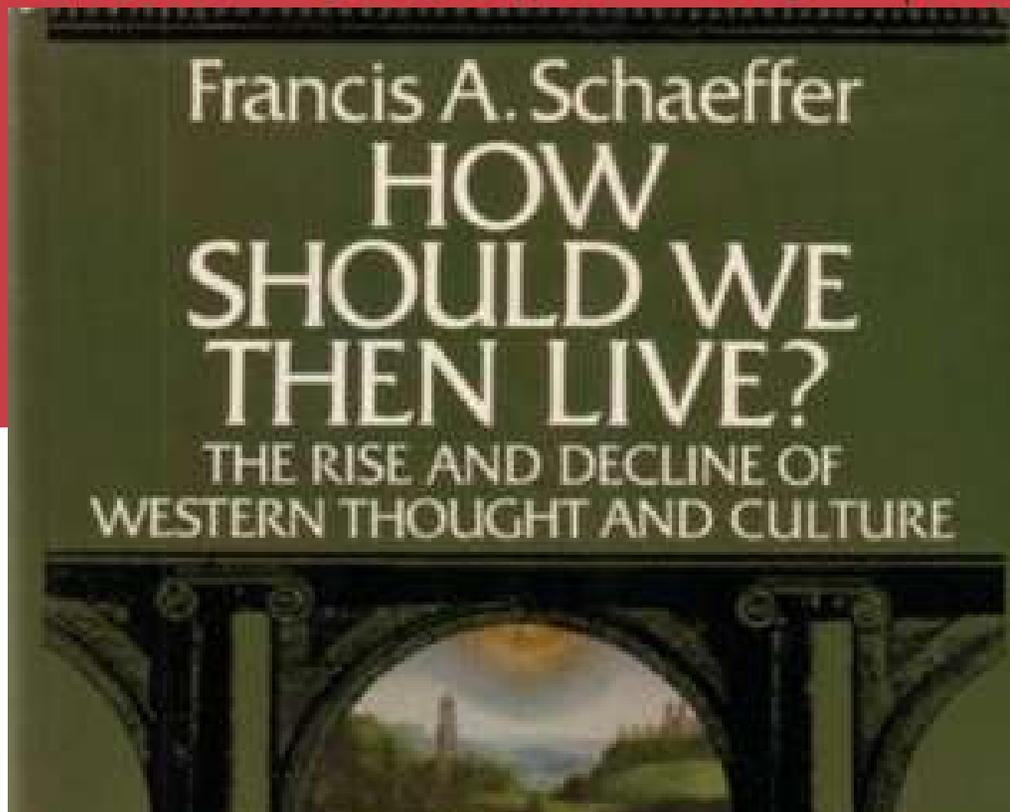
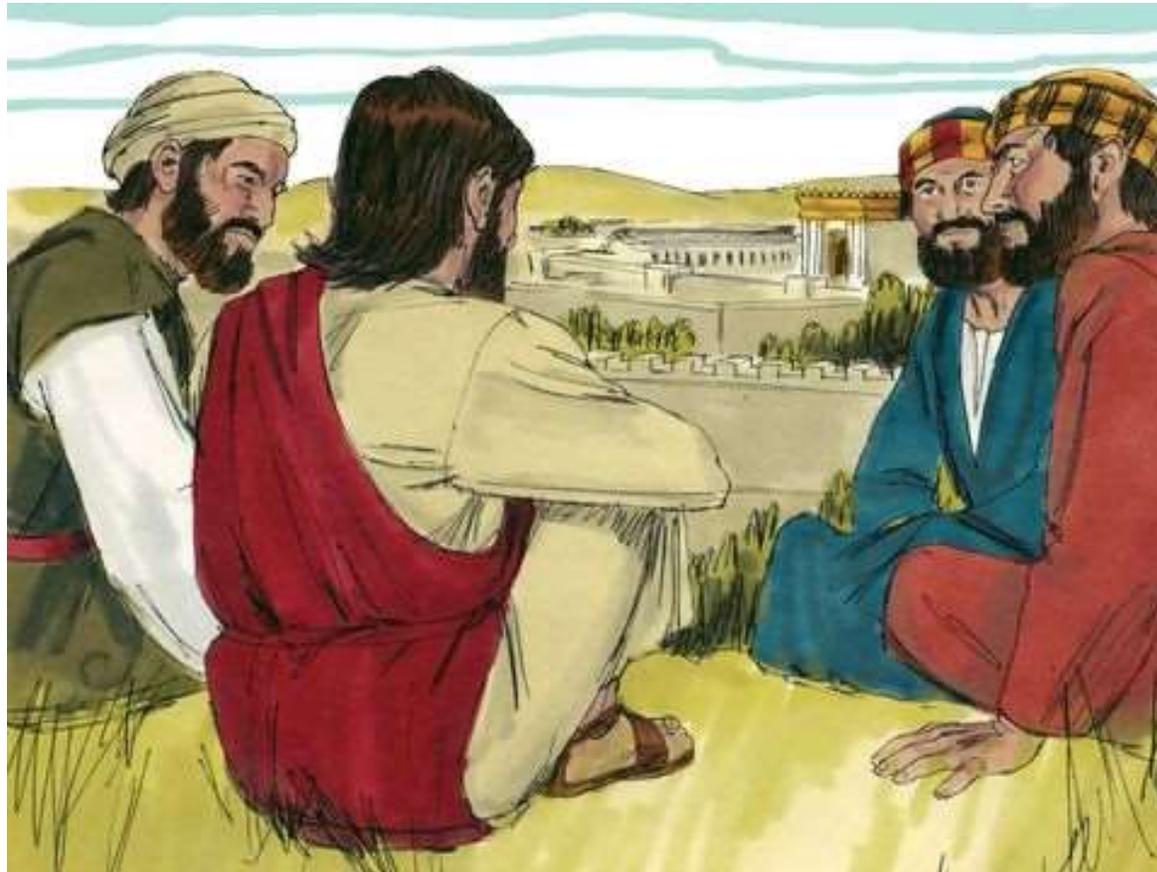




** How should we then live?*



Who then is?

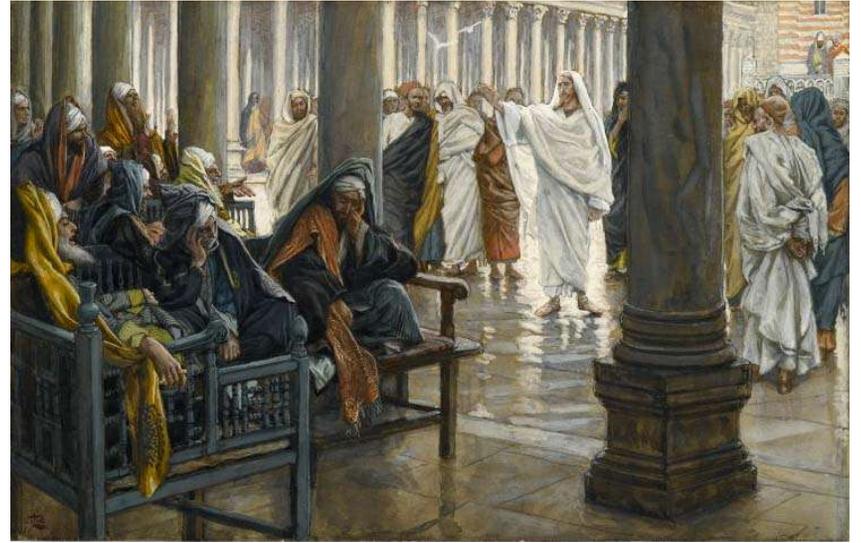


Watch and Be Ready!



- *To look at, as a spectator*
- *To observe, with concern for the situation*
- *To be awake, to avoid missing something*
- *To be vigilant, as in keeping guard against enemies*
- *To keep guard, to prevent a harmful outcome*
- *To be expectant, waiting for the right signal*
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Context of the Parable on the Wise and Foolish Maidens



- ***Jesus' Leadup to the Olivet Discourse***
 - ***Denunciation of the Jewish leadership***
 - ***Matthew 23:31-37***
 - ***His prophecy of leaving and returning***
 - ***Matthew 23:38-39***

Matthew 23: 28 In the same way, on the outside **you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.**

29 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You build tombs for the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous.

30 And you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

33 "You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?

35 **And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barakiah,** whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

36 I tell you the truth, all this will come upon this generation.

37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing.

38 **Look, your house is left to you desolate.**

39 For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

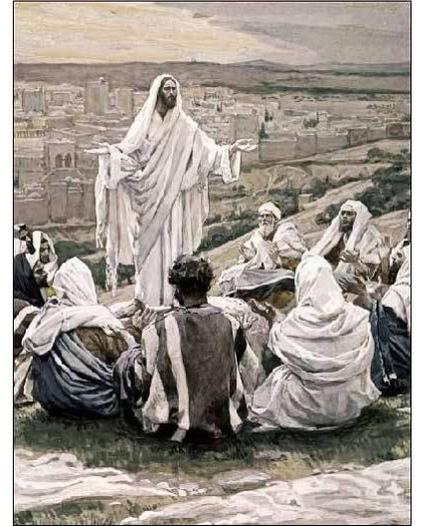
Context of the Parable



- *The Olivet Discourse*

- *Jesus prophesies the Temple destruction*
 - *Matthew 24:1,2*
- *1 Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings.*
- *2 "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."*

WHAT?



- *The eleven:*
 - *But Lord!*
 - *We left all to follow you*
 - *Recently you have told us you are leaving*
 - *Now you have just put us all at war with our national leaders!*
 - *You are leaving us now!?*
 - *Is this the kingdom of God we have been..*

WHAT?

- ***The Lord:***

- ***Men!***
- ***How long have I been with you?***
- ***Yet still you don't understand***
- ***I am about to die for you***
- ***I am about to leave you and return***
- ***You are not prepared for what is coming***
- ***You are not watching with me***



Context of the Parable

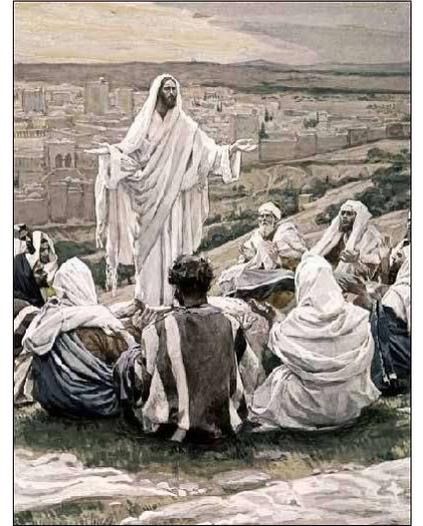
- *The Olivet Discourse*

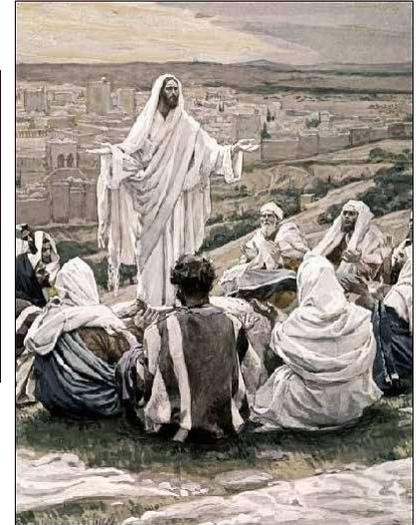
- *The questions of the disciples*

- *When will this happen?*
- *What will be the sign of your coming?*
- *What will be the sign of the end of the age?*

- *General Observations*

- *Jewish nation*
- *Events in the chronology*
 - *Destruction of Temple/Jerusalem*
 - *(Rapture)*
 - *Tribulation*
 - *Return of Christ to Earth*
 - *At that time Kingdom of Heaven*





Disciples Question 1	When will this happen?
Disciples Question 2	What will be the sign of your coming?
Disciples Question 3	What will be the sign of the end of the age?

Matthew	Time	Summary
24:4-14	Time period 1	Birthpains
24:15-28	Time cut short	Distress
24:29-31	Time period 3	Christ returns in glory, judgment
24:32-44	Admonition: Keep watch and be ready!	
24:45-51	Parable 1	The faithful and wise servants
25:1-13	Parable 2	The wise and foolish maidens
25:14-30	Parable 3	The faithful and foolish servants
25:31-46	Time period 4	The judgment of the King



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	Time	Summary
	Time period	Church age, Gentiles being grafted
	Event	Destruction of Jerusalem
	Event	Rapture of the Church
Matt 24:4-14	Time period 1	Birthpains
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Three parables together in the Olivet Discourse

Main	Situation	Illustrated	Charge	Expectation	Judgment
Master	When he returns	Servant	Household	Faithful & wise	Blessing vs exclusion
Groom	Expected soon	Maidens	Meet him	Wise, known	Known vs exclusion
Man	Away on journey	Servants	Talents	Good & faithful	Blessing vs exclusion

Matt 25:1 ¶ "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten maidens 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, 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 maidens 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. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

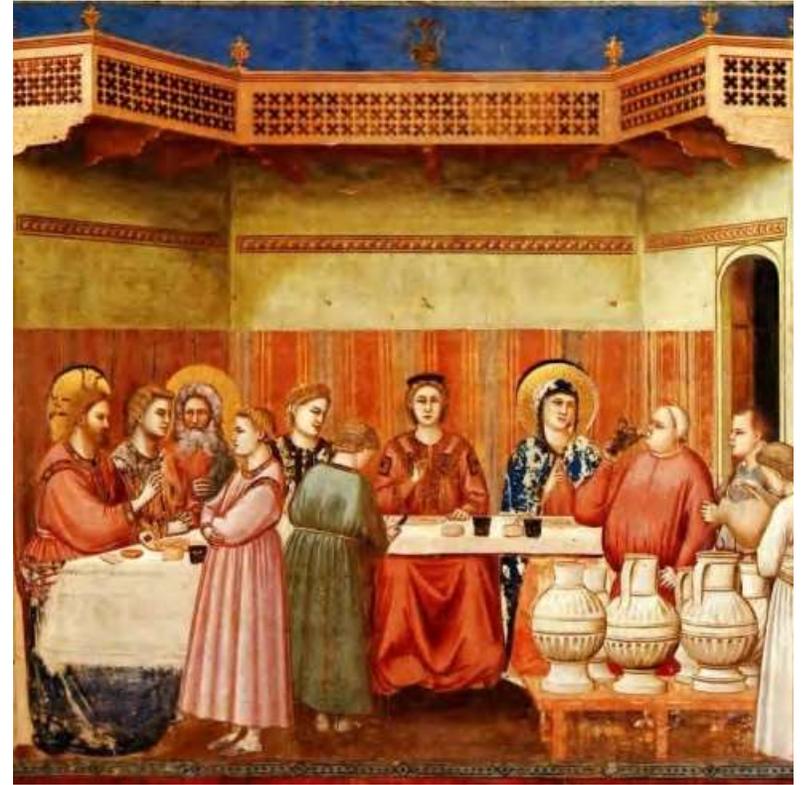
11 "Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!'

12 "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'

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

Locating the parable

- *Selection*
- *Negotiation*
- *Betrothal*
- *Preparation*
- *Presentation*
- *Procession*
- *Feast, Consummation, Celebration*



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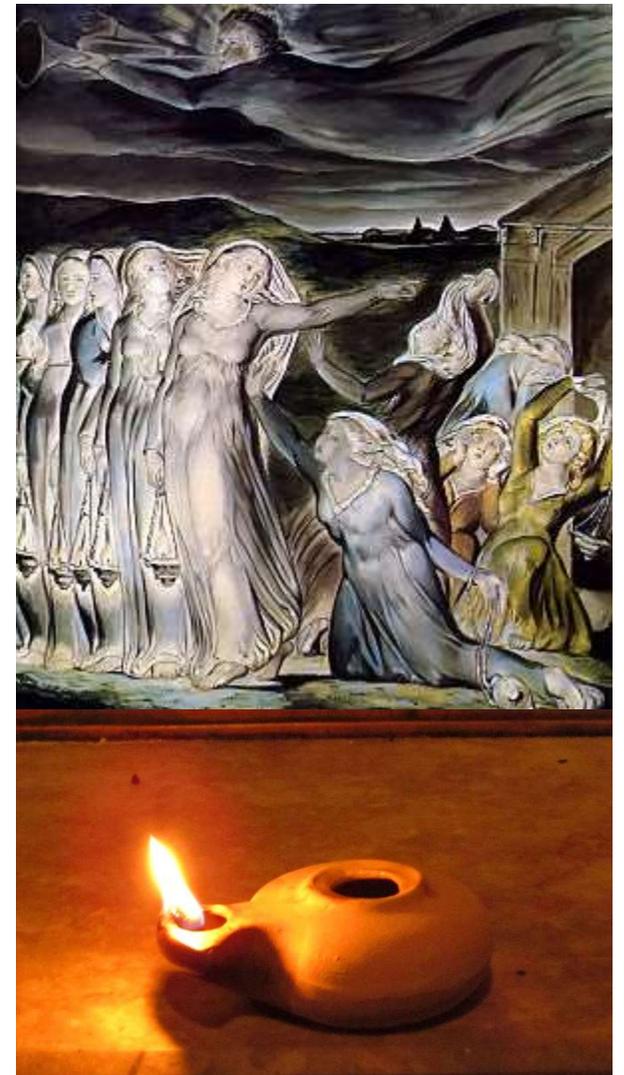


Kingdom of Heaven will be like..

ELEMENT	STORY	EXEGESIS/INTERPRETATION
The ten maidens	Bridesmaids, both expecting the bridegroom	Friends of the bride
Foolish	Without oil, without prep'n	
Wise	With oil, prepared for coming	
Bridegroom	Groom to Bride's home to take her to marriage	The Son of Man returns
Bride (IMPLIED)	Present, from culture	Comes with Son of Man to establish kingdom with the elect
Lamps	To meet Bridegroom	Profession of faith
Oil	For evening light	Genuine faith, Spirit regeneration
Midnight	Unknown time of groom arrival to bring bride	The unknown time of His return
Announcement	The cry: He has come!	The angels to gather the elect
The shut door	Separation of those welcomed to the feast	Only those who are faithful to Jesus enter
Sir, sir	The gatekeeper	The Son of Man, The judge
Wedding banquet	Marriage (feast) celebration	Wedding supper of the Lamb Revelation 19

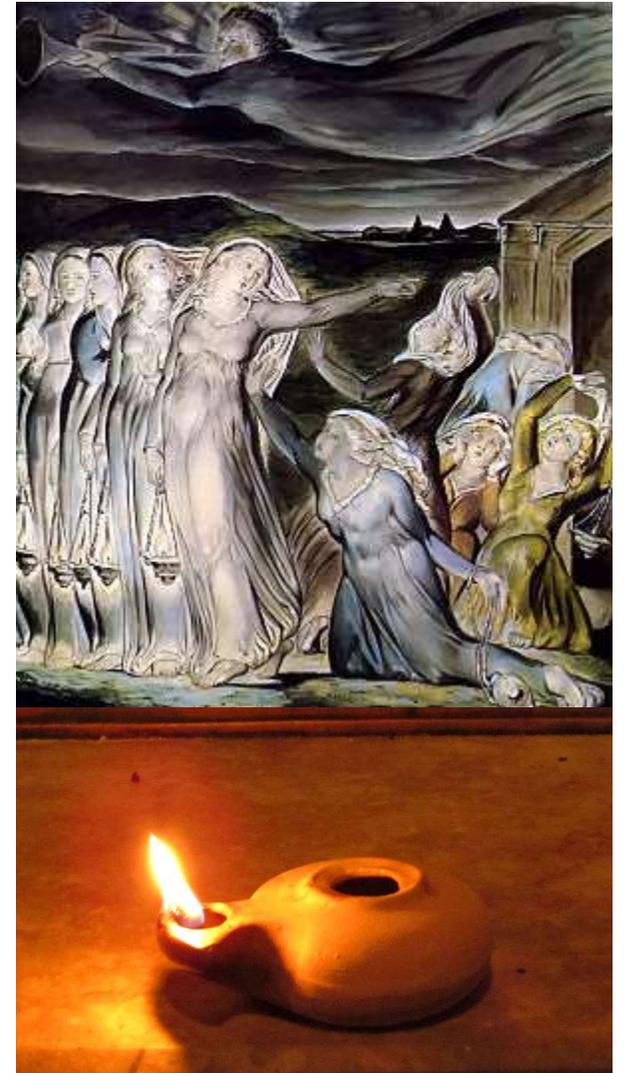
What response was Jesus looking for via this parable?

- *The eleven:*
 - *When will these things be?*
- *Jesus:*
 - *You don't know the hour*
 - *Keep watch for my return*
 - *Be prepared*
 - *In genuine faith (fullness)*
 - *Let your light shine*
 - *In wisdom*



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Keep WATCH for the Return of the Lord!



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Who then/**now** is?

