

## Parable of The Ten Virgins

The following is the parable revealing there would be more than one group claiming to be the Bride of Christ. The true Bride is putting no confidence in the world or fleshly indulgence. True fellowship with God is in Spirit and Truth as we have already seen. The oil of the lamp is symbolic of true relationship with God. The Oil is Symbolic of relationship with God whose substance is Spirit.

[Jhn 4:24 NASB] 24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and truth."

[Mat 25:1-13 NIV] 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.

[Mat 25:1-13 NIV]

We find in Matthew 25:1-13 a parable of the Lord Jesus Christ/Anointed Savior that ends with startling consequences. Five of the virgins were self-proclaimed, not actually having a relationship with the Lord, such to the extent that the Lord confesses that He (**never**) knew them; not having a relationship of any kind. This indicates that these virgins were in fact imposters and sought the Gift of salvation though they lacked what was required i.e. the oil. This oil they lacked is symbolic and represents God's Spirit being in us. These people sought Jesus through their own means and not through that of God who is in heaven. The Great religion of the false prophet is of the world and therefore worldly and cannot satisfy God's Justice.

Can we find other information in the scripture indicating more fully what God requires of us in order to know we are truly saved? The scripture teaches that we should have complete confidence regarding our salvation as did the five virgins that the Lord knew: Heb 10:22-23. Let's look at some other passages where the Lord has said similar statements regarding those with the assumption they are saved yet really are not. In Mat

7:21-23 we see that not everyone saying Lord, Lord, will be welcomed into heaven. These persons were drawing attention to their works; they refused the idea of ((faith alone)) as the scripture teaches in more than 120 verses: Titus 3:5. We see in Matthew 7:21 that those who do the will of the Father will enter into heaven; in 1Jn 3:23 the Apostle John expresses plainly that believing in the Eternal Savior/Jesus is the most central desire the Father has for us. Acts 4:12 expresses the only issue in salvation, that being the Anointed Savior/Jesus Christ. The bible says that Jesus is the only mediator between us and the Father: 1Tim 2:5. Any organization suggesting there is another mediator is of the Lawless one.

What is His will, and how can we know for sure we are doing it? The only way to insure a full reward is to maintain an ongoing love for the word of God, not paying attention to deceitful spirits and the doctrines of Demons: 1Tim 4:1; 2Jn 1:9-10. We see from many verses that believers do fail and yet will still have a life with God in heaven: Jam 3:2; Jn 5:24, 10:28. What is the basis of our salvation considering we are disobedient? The answer to this Question is simple: Only the work of Jesus Christ can save us, only trusting in the Savior Eternal/Jesus can save us: putting our trust in anyone or anything else is indicative that the person might not be saved at all: Jer 17:5. The Bible indicates that there will be a multitude of false teachers in the last days: 1Tim 4:1-5. The Bible has much to say about salvation and, also, concerning those determined to distort what it says about this subject. These men will teach variations of the gospel [a false Christ] rather than the one taught in accordance with Scripture Mat 24:24; 2Tim 3:13. False religion places the laity as slaves to [the leaders], otherwise people risk a temporary judgment; whereas the Bible expresses something completely different than “Pay me and your sentence will be reduced.” The Bible teaches that these ideas are extortion and bribery: Acts 8:14-24. In the context of the previous verse the residence of the Holy Spirit is the internal evidence the person is saved: Eph 1:13, 4:30. To imply that we can provide something for the free gift of salvation is to mock the Lord and Savior Anointed/Jesus Christ who paid the full price for the sins of the world: Rom 5:15-21; Col 2:14; Rom 5:8. Because of so many false teachers, the verses of the Bible are the only reliable basis for teaching and study: 1Tim 4:6, 13; 2Tim 2:15; 3:16. God has seen fit that there be Bibles in every known language so that everybody can read for themselves and make up their own mind to believe it or to distort what it says.

Let's look at many different verses from many different places in the Bible and see if it portrays a consistent pattern regarding what constitutes salvation. We will look mainly at what Paul has to say about this subject because he, in fact, was used by God to show everyone real issues regarding salvation. Paul shows that those who teach and deviate even slightly from the Gospel are to be excommunicated (“accursed”): Gal 1:8-9. In light of the strong words in Galatians, it forces us to take a closer look at what the Bible has to say regarding salvation. 2Peter 1:19-21. The book of Romans is one of the places where Paul teaches what the Gospel is and is not. Let us give special attention to some of Paul's conclusions. The first indication that salvation is by faith is in Romans: 2:29, where we see that the circumcision of the heart is from the Spirit and not from the letter i.e. not from the Mosaic Law. The idea in view is that keeping the law never saved anyone; and yet the Law was a very extensive system of good works!! Gal 2:16; Rom 5:1-2. God used

this letter to the Romans to show them that they would not be saved by keeping the law; yet on the other hand, those who were saved by faith would be blessed if they were obedient to the law. We see in Rom 3:9-31 that there are no righteous men apart from God; and that through the righteousness of faith we come to know God through the Savior Anointed/Jesus Christ: John 14:6. This is the reoccurring theme throughout the whole Bible: Rom 3:21; Luke 24:27; 1Peter 1:10-11.

Back in Galatians 1:8-9 it should be important to note that the correct meaning to the Word Angel is [Messenger] i.e. from heaven. In this passage, Paul indicates, that by the time of his writing to the Galatians, there would be no more intermediaries/Angels and, certainly, no differing variations of the Gospel. The scripture indicates that Satan, and all those who have chosen to follow his ways, have been turned over to a depraved mind: Rom 1:18. 2Thes 2:9-11. God provided these truths through Paul for those who will search for the truth even until now. Because of the increasing number of variant Gospels, it is apparent to many that the Rapture of the Church is getting close. The scripture indicates these things have been designed to deceive and are really not from God. The Bible indicates that the majority of these seductions come from a fallen spirit claiming to be a “Queen” having tremendous religious and political power: Rev 18:7-9, having an attitude of invincibility as if she could never be wrong. Yet the Lord says to His people to come out from among her so they will not be liable in her sins: Rev 18:4. From this verse we know that true believers are among her in ignorance: Acts 17:22-30. By the scripture, we see that this fallen spirit is responsible for seducing people in much of the world: Rev 17:1; 17:15. This woman is said to reign over the kings of the earth from an enduring city called Babylon/Rome/Vatican City: Rev 17:18; and is said to have murdered the prophets and the witnesses of Jesus: Rev 17:6.

The following are more passages in Romans providing additional proof that salvation can only come to us through faith in Jesus Christ. In Rom 9:11 it says, “not because of works but because of Him who calls.” Just beyond this, in verse 16, we see that things depend on God and His mercy and not on what we do. At the end of chapter 9; we see the principle of believing displayed by the Word. We see at the beginning of Chapter ten that Paul had a heart for his countrymen and acknowledged the fact they had a zeal for God but had departed from the truth, to the extent that God was going to use the Gentiles to administer the Word to them. Prior to the Post/“cross”, it was the other way around: the Jew taught the Gentile: Rom 11:11. This passage reflects that the handling of the Word of God would be the responsibility of Gentile nations: Rom 11:25 until the Church is completed at the Rapture; and is in no way implying that salvation was previously withheld from Gentiles. Two more verses from Romans that deserve some special attention are 4:14 and 11:5; these verses provide the strongest possible dismissal of the idea of works for salvation. This excludes the Law in its entirety: no one can be saved by keeping any part of the law. If salvation could be obtained by any part of the Law, then the Anointed One’s/Christ’s sacrifice on the post was in vain. The Law had an extensive system of good works that were to be directed towards foreigners that the Israelites encountered; yet these things still are not enough. Those that refuse the idea of faith alone, and embrace the idea of works for salvation, are embracing a destiny of eternal separation from God: Mat 25:11-12. These people will go to their judgment with their

own righteousness and not the righteousness of God that is given to those that put their faith in the work of The Lord Jesus Christ and nothing more: Mat 7:21-23; Rev 20:12 (“according to their deeds”). Beyond this simple act of faith there’s additional growth that God has for those willing to persevere. This additional growth takes believers to an unshakable confidence in God, who raised our Lord and Savior/Jesus from the dead.