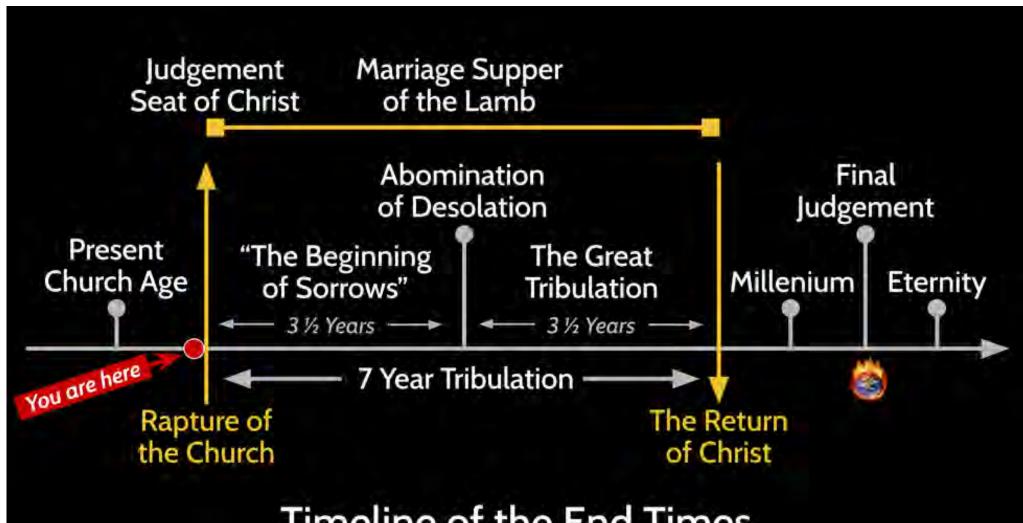
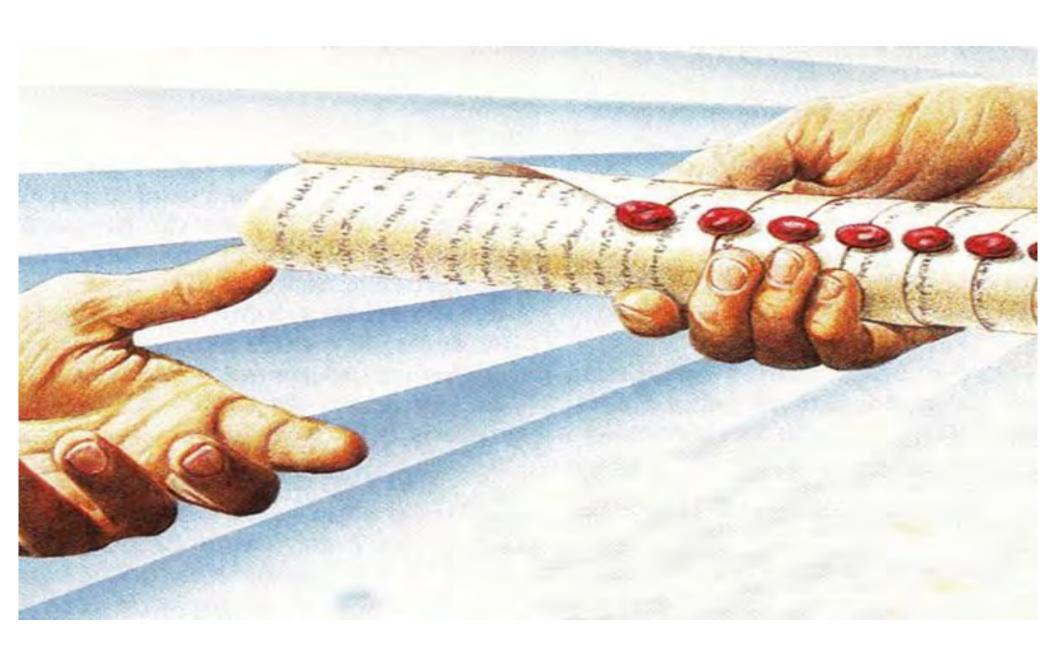
Be Ready! Parable of the Ten Virgins **Matthew 25: 1-13**

September 24, 2023



Timeline of the End Times



Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign

FOREVER

AND EVER.

Revelation 11:15



<u>Verse 1 - 2</u>

Surprise! The Ten Virgins are not the Bride

The Bride is in heaven prior to the Second Coming

The bridesmaids were waiting to take part in the wedding supper, not the marriage ceremony!

The marriage ceremony is between the Bride (CHURCH) and the Groom (CHRIST), exclusively

The marriage ceremony is between Messiah and His Bride and takes place in heaven

Revelation 19:6-9

⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

- ⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)
- ⁹Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God."

The bridesmaids/virgins are Old Testament saints and Tribulation believers, called to the celebration, not the Marriage Ceremony!

The Bride only is at the Marriage Ceremony!

It is easy to confuse the marriage supper/celebration with the Marriage Ceremony, but there is a difference

Remember: Today, the marriage ceremony precedes the celebration (the eating and rejoicing with the couple)

<u>Verse 3 - 5</u>

Oil, or no oil, makes an eternal difference



The wise took extra oil, the foolish did not take extra oil

Foolish = "moros" = morons; willfully foolish

Oil is symbolic of the Holy Spirit

The <u>wise</u> were the ones who believed and trusted; they always kept a supply of oil present

The <u>unwis</u>e, the foolish, the morons, *did not have oil* that sustained

No Holy Spirit = no genuine salvation - Romans 8: 9

How do I know I have the Holy Spirit?

Romans 8: 13

How a person lives is an indicator of genuineness

REALLY?

REALLY!!

Important:

We are not to judge if someone has oil (the Holy Spirit)

God is the judge; He knows those who are His!

Each person must examine their own lives

Test yourself to see if you are genuine - 2 Corinthians 13: 5

Verse 6 - 9 The midnight hour shout

The time had come

The shofar sounded

The Groom was coming to fetch His Bride!

This is the reason many view the Feast of Trumpets as the Rapture, where Jesus comes to fetch His Bride, *the Church*

Maybe yes! . . . Maybe no . . . Wait and see!

The Seven Feasts of the Lord

Feast Gap Period (fulfilled by Church Age)



'These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.' Col 2:17

The Spring Feasts (fulfilled @ Jesus' first coming)

Passover	Unleavened Bread	FirstFruits	Pentecost
Crucifixion	Burial	Resurrection	Coming of the
Of Jesus	Of Jesus	Of Jesus	Holy Spirit
Nisan 14	Nisan 15-22	Nisan 17	Sivan 7
Exodus 12	Lev 23:6-8	Lev 23:9-14	Lev 23:15-22
Matt 26:17-27	I Cor 5:7-8	I Cor 15:20-23	Acts 1 & 2

The Autumn (Fall) Feasts (fulfilled @ Jesus' second coming)

Trumpets	Atonement	Tabernacles
Rapture & Resurrection Of Believers	Second Coming Of Jesus	Messianic Kingdom Age
Tishri 1	Tishri 10	Tishri 15-22
Lev 23:23-25 1 Cor 15:51-52	Lev 23:26-32 Matt 24:29-30	Lev 23:33-44 Rev 20:1-6

—— 'The Days of Awe' ——
Time of Jacob's trouble

Verse 10 Five were too late!

The crux of the whole matter:

"... those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut"

There will be a time when all second chances are done, and God will shut the door to salvation!

Jesus said something very profound in John 3: 17:

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

God's heart is for people to turn and live – <u>Ezekiel 18: 23; 2 Peter 3: 9</u>

Verse 11 - 13

The saddest words in history: "I never knew you"

The plea, the cry, went out to let us in: "Lord, Lord, open to us!"

You can feel the desperation and panic setting in

Their pathetic cries were to no avail

It is not as though the five did not know; they knew what was expected!

With knowledge comes responsibility!

Jesus' response is chilling – "Assuredly, I say to you,
I do not know you."

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Watch! and **Be Ready!!** is Jesus' theme

Whether we go in a group Rapture or an individual Rapture, the point is, we will be going!!

The place you will be going needs to be determined!

You still have <u>time</u>....!

Something precious that no one can store up!

You have been given your allotment of <u>time;</u> use your <u>time</u> wisely!!

"Redeem the time for the days are evil" Ephesians 5: 16

DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE!

"Only one life will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."

(C.T. Studd)

WATCH! BE READY! AND WARN!

The world will think you are a fanatic!

In the early 1900's, C.T. also wrote this: "God's real people have always been called fanatics."

"Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow." Psalm 144: 4

IT'S ALMOST THE MIDNIGHT HOUR!



WATCH!

BE READY!!

WARN!!!

USE YOUR TIME WISELY!