

To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit

(Part 1)

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, 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. ‘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.”* (Matthew 25:1-13)

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ spoke about His second coming in the form of parable, and one of these parable is the parable of the ten virgins. At the time of Jesus the wedding in Israel was in this way: The groom will leave his house with the men and the relatives at around the sun set and they will go to the house of the bride to take her to the house of the groom, who will sleep with her, and she need to prove her virginity. Otherwise if she proves not a virgin then according to the Law of God she will be stoned to death.

Since the groom will start moving to the house of the bride at around sunset then they will reach at about night time and they need a source of light and that is why they need to prepare lamps so they can see their ways. And from this comes the need for the lamps and for the oil that makes the lamps working and giving light.

The theme of this parable is this: There is something needed to be prepared and be ready with and that is the oil. The ten virgins all of them they have lamps but five of them were wise because they prepared the oil while the others are foolish who did not prepare themselves with the oil.

Does the five foolish virgin they knew that they need to prepare the oil? Yes they knew that because the parable tells us that when the bridegroom came *‘The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’* As the foolish went to ask oil from the wise then they knew that they need to prepare oil ahead of time.

The meaning of the oil here for the lamp to work in this parable is the Holy Spirit in our lives; the Lord wants us to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that when he comes He found us ready. *Why the five foolish virgins did not prepare the oil?*

1- Laziness and complacency: They were not keeping their priorities in a correct way. The wise they kept some money to buy oil, and they kept a time and they made it a point that they need to go to the market to go and buy oil. The foolish they kept money and time and effort to do other unnecessary things while the important things they neglected. Many Christians who believe in Christ they do many non important things and they spend their money and their time doing other things worldly to please people, customs and tradition. What they have received from the Lord they were spending it to please their flesh and spend on their pleasures.

2- They abused the grace of God and they took the Lord for granted: *‘The bridegroom was a long time in coming.’* Many Christians they know what they ought to do and they sin by failing to

obey the Lord, *“Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn’t do it, sins.”* (James 4:17) They keep themselves living in sin and disobedience, thinking that the Lord coming will take longer time, ¹ *“Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you,”* ² *for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.* ³ *While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.”* (1Thessalonians 5:1-3) Many they abuse the grace of God by keeping themselves in the dangerous zone of non-repentance thinking that the Lord coming is not yet the time for it or it will not take place, and that what the word of God tells us ⁴ *“First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.”* ⁵ *They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.”* (2Peter 3:3-4) ⁶ *“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.”* ⁷ *“Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives”* ⁸ *as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.”* ⁹ *“But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.”* (2Peter 3:10-13) Therefore as we are waiting for His second coming let us be filled with the Holy Spirit:

A- ¹ “Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” ² *Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,* ³ *always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* (Ephesians 5:18-20) You should not be drinking wine that will hinder the Holy Spirit from filling you. Neither be filled with anger, nor lies, nor revenge, nor lust, nor unforgiveness, nor bitterness, nor envy and the rest of the work of the flesh that will only hinder your filling with the holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will come when you keep yourself in the right atmosphere and in the right fellowship where the word of God is preached and expound and where Psalms, Hymns and spiritual songs is uttered unto the Lord with grateful and thankful heart.

B- *“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”* (Luke 11:13) Kneel down, repent and renounce all your sins and keep asking God to fill you with the Holy Spirit so you can serve Him in a better way.

C- *“We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”* (Acts 5:32) God will give the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him and willing to walk in His way. And those who will obey Him they will be led by the Holy Spirit of God and the Lord will find them ready with us when He will come, *“because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”* (Romans 8:14)

My Dear and Beloved: ¹ *“But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.”* ² *You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.”* ³ *So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.”* ⁴ *For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.”* ⁵ *But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.”* ⁶ *For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* ⁷ *He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.”* ⁸ *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”* (1Thessalonians 5:4-11) As you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I commit my life into your hands, I repent from the following sins _____, I ask you Lord to fill me with The Holy Spirit, in Jesus name Amen.*