



THE RAPTURE! IT IS REAL, ARE YOU READY?

THE RAPTURE! Shining for All the World to See – Part 2

Sunday Teaching (outline) – 12-26-2021

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Matt. 5:13-16 You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

We are in the series: The Rapture and Beyond.

This series is our theme for 2022 - "Living with an Eternal Perspective!"

Focus Scripture: Matt. 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

The need for us to seek the Kingdom of God is that it is the only way of living that is guaranteed to please God to which He bestows favor and increase. ... **and all these things shall be added to you.**

The spiritual aspect of the Kingdom of God is in Christ, the Holy Spirit. it's more the just principles, power, purpose and a way of life. It is a living spiritual organism where the light and the life of God resides. **Rom. 14:17-18 - for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.**

Everything that pertains to Life and Godliness is in the Kingdom of God.

We have been looking at the parable of the Ten Virgins. This parable talks about 5 wise and 5 foolish virgins.

The wise are people who take advantage of the opportunities they get to witness the Kingdom, to witness God's way of life that is full of Goodness.

John 9:4 - I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

Jesus took advantage of the opportunities He was exposed to, to do the work of God,

Matt. 25:3-4 - Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

The foolish virgins are foolish believers, who had light at one time.

They didn't value the light, value the Christ in them enough to allow it to reflect in their way of living.

They were almost out of oil at the announcement of the coming of the bridegroom, meaning they weren't ready for Jesus to come.

The wise virgins had enough faith and expectation to keep their lamps shining so they could be ready.

The oil I believe is a combination of the Living Word of God and the Holy Spirit working in the life of a believer.

Ps. 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. The oil (the Anointed Living Word of God, powered by the Holy Spirit) will show you your condition, keep you from stumbling and guide you in the way to go.

Ps 119:130 (NLT) The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.

It takes the Living Word of God and the Holy Spirit to make a difference. **John 14:26 - But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**

As the Word is taught to us it will bring enlightenment and understanding to the believer.

God is light **1 John 1:5 - This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.**

When God's presence shows up, light shows up. **Gen. 1:3-5 - Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.** As soon as God spoke, light took over!

The light of God always brings life. **John 1:4-5 - In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.**

There is a false light that is full of darkness. **2 Cor. 11:14 - And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.**

One meaning of darkness is ignorance. The light of the Holy Spirit and the Living Word of God gets rid of the darkness/ignorance in our lives.

We see this in the life of Jesus. **John 8:12 - Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."**

It is the Light of Jesus in us that gives us abundant, eternal life!

Jesus Is Lord ~ Assembly of Love

This is how Jesus illustrates the light in the life of a believer. **Matt. 5: 14 - "You are the light of the world. The Bible calls us light.**

The born-again believer is light because our Heavenly Father is the Father of Lights. **James 1:17-18 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights,** (The born-again believer) ...¹⁸ **Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.**

1 John 4:17 - Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. So, if Jesus is light and Father God is light and the Father lights the essences of who we are, is light.

Because we are light, it is our responsibility to illuminate everything around us and dispel darkness. **Matt. 5:14-15 - ...like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.** ¹⁵ **No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.**

Notice it says “**gives light to everyone**” there are people who are waiting to feed off your illumination.

¹⁶ **In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see,...** As I speak and work, I’m doing it from my connection with Him the Living Word by the Power of the Holy Spirit.

...so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. God lit us up to show us off so He can get the Glory!

They need to see God’s goodness in your talk, your walk, and your results from following the Living Word.

Matt. 25:8 - And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' In order for their lamps to be going out that had to be lit at one time.

This is one reason I say not all believers are going in the rapture. Some believers have let their lights go out.

⁹ **But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.'**

If the oil represents the Living Word and the Holy Spirit, the oil the foolish came back with had to have been counterfeit. Because neither the Rhema Word nor the Holy Spirit should be brought or sold.

When our lights are shining, we get God’s attention, and when we get God’s attention life and increase always follow. **Ps. 1:1-4 (Living Bible) - Oh, the joys of those who do not follow evil men's advice, who do not hang around with sinners, scoffing at the things of God.** ² **But they delight in doing everything God wants them to, and day and night are always meditating on his laws and thinking about ways to follow him more closely.** ³ **They are like trees along a riverbank bearing luscious fruit each season without fail. Their leaves shall never wither, and all they do shall prosper.**

Matt. 25:10 - And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

The bridegroom took only the ones who were ready, the illuminated ones!!!

Matt. 25:11-12 - "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' ¹² But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

Know-NT:1492 εἰδῶ. To see. This verb is obsolete in the pres. act. *I do not know you now!*

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In Greek, this statement is written in the present state. He didn't know them intimately at that time. Not He never knew them.

Matt. 25:13 - "Watch (and be ready) therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

Matt. 25:13 (Amplified Bible) - Watch therefore [give strict attention and be cautious and active], for you know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man will come.