



# THE RAPTURE! IT IS REAL, ARE YOU READY?

## **THE RAPTURE! Being One of the Faithful and the Wise Part 7!**

**Sunday Teaching (outline) – 12-5-2021**

**Bishop Steven A. Norman, Pastor – Teacher**

**Matt. 25:1-13 - "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. <sup>3</sup> Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. <sup>6</sup> "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> 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.' <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' <sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup> "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.**

### **The Parable of the Ten Virgins**

**Matt. 25:1 -Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened.**

The Kingdom of Heaven here is not the same as the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom from Heaven is the Millennial Reign, the governmental system Jesus will set up at His second coming.

He will usher in a new lifestyle, a whole other way of living! The way of life that is in Heaven.

We are told to pray for the physical rule and reign of Jesus to come in the thousand-year reign: The Kingdom from Heaven.

Mankind will learn how to live by faith in love.

Jesus Is Lord ~ Assembly of Love

The Kingdom of God on the other hand is all-encompassing, everything God has created of the seen and the unseen realms.

We received the spiritual essence of the Kingdom of God when we received the Holy Spirit. **Rom. 14:17-...for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.**

When we received the Holy Spirit we received the mind of Christ, wisdom of God, and the power of God.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to be better witnesses, to put the characteristics of the Kingdom of God on physical display for the world to see.

Jesus was sharing how to display the Kingdom of God in **Luke 4:18-19 (NLT) - "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, <sup>19</sup> and that the time of the LORD's favor has come."**

**Matt. 25:1-2 - ...ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.**

The number 10 in the bible can mean "the measure of human responsibility". These 10 virgins were supposed to be living up to their responsibility of being prepared for the bridegroom's arrival, the Rapture.

Virgin "an unmarried woman in this parable she represents the church." Jesus is coming back for a pure church- this is the type of Church Jesus is coming to take back with Him. **Eph. 5: 27 - that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.**

How do we get into this glorious state? **1 John 3:3 - And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.** Real Hope has actions that follow.

**Heb. 12:1-2 - Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith,**

**1 Peter 1:22 tells us the Word of God cleanses us as we apply it in love by faith to our lives. Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,**

God is looking for people who want to be transformed, become disciplined ones who develop the ability to judge, rule and reign righteously.

**1 Cor. 6:2-3 - Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?** World- NT:3625 Kosmos -To place where the people dwell and/or abide. The inhabited earth, the world.

But we will judge angels also? **<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that we shall judge angels?**

He is coming back for wise people. The word 'Wise' (Strong's 5429, phromiros) means "single-minded" (i.e., one life is being for God) and thus, this believer is full of light and is illuminated.

The word "wise" is from the root word phren, which means "to rein in or curb the emotions."