

Audio Teaching Sermon Message #39 Parable of Ten Virgins

[A Intro – Pastor Jefferson 0:00 thru 1:23]

To all my fellow friends and followers of Jesus. Welcome once again to DWJD Ministries **Audio Teaching Sermon Series**. We have been progressing through assorted topics of Scripture and are now up to **Message #39**. I am Pastor Jefferson and today I will begin the discussion regarding those who will be left behind following the **Rapture**. Which we have defined as **'the bodily removal of all true, fully fledged followers of Jesus Christ from the earth up to heaven.'** This will doubtless be perhaps the most amazing transformation of people up to this point in time in the history of the world. The Great Flood saw the destruction of humanity on a global scale, with only **8 people** climbing aboard the Ark. Scientists have speculated that with people living such long lives, there could have been between **5 to 13 billion** people alive at the time of the flood. This estimated range yields an average population of **9 billion**. Like the flood, the Tribulation will also result in the destruction of nearly the whole of humanity remaining on the earth, based on the details contained in Scripture, as they have been given to us by God.

[B Depravity was Unconstrained 1:23 thru 2:45]

As I have shown time and again, God uses **symmetry** as a way of proving the veracity of His word. I discovered over 30 years ago that each prophecy made in Scripture is for at least **2 separate events**. They are completely distinct events sharing prophetic timing. I describe these 2 events as being akin to being near and afar, big and a little, or just very similar events separated by a thousand years. This increases the mathematical certainty that these prophecies are indeed genuine and real by a factor which makes them impossible to be mere coincidences. For example, the **Great flood** was brought by God due to humanity having reached a point where man's depravity could no longer be contained or constrained. It will be for this very same reason that this age of man will be ended. The big difference in the **Tribulation** is that God is not going to wipe man off the face of the earth. He will preserve a significant remnant of people, using once again an ark, filled with people numbering several million instead of just one family on a boat.

[C An Ark for Protection 2:45 thru 4:03]

But the ark this time will not be a boat. It will be a city. The definition of the word **ark**

is **'something that affords protection and safety.'** The Hebrews carried a sacred chest with the presence of God inside, an ark, which kept them safe from all harm. It was the same with Noah's ark and the inner sanctum of the Hebrew Temple. It will be the same with the city of **Petra**, where God will preserve the Hebrew people, just as He promised in Scripture. The beginning of the Tribulation will start in **November of 2033**. I will be showing you all the proof which God has given me, completely verifying this date. It is not a simple calculation. I will spend a significant amount of time proving the associated dates and timing using Biblical fact, as shown to me by Jesus via His Holy Spirit. And every bit of it comes out of information already contained in the pages of the Bible. Human population will peak at just over **9 billion** folks at that time. This is why I believe that there were **9 billion** people alive at the time Noah was finishing up his construction of the Ark.

[**D** The Word Trinity's Not in the Bible 4:03 thru 5:20]

As I said, God uses symmetry to prove His prophecy. Nothing He does can reasonably be deemed to be of coincidence. Keep that in the forefront of your mind. Let's return to our discussion of the rapture for a moment. When I was a young Christian, I was taught and believed that the rapture would occur before the start of the Tribulation. This is known as the "**pre-trib**" point of view. Those who believe the rapture will occur at the mid-point of the Tribulation are called "**mid-tribber's**." There is also a school of thought that says the rapture will occur near the end of the age of Adam, when Christ returns to destroy sinful humanity. These people are called "**post tribber's**." And there is yet still a significant number of folks who believe there will be no such thing as a rapture at all. They will tell you the word rapture is not even in the Bible. That is true. The word **rapture** doesn't appear in English translations of the Bible. Before you get too excited, neither is the word **Bible**. Nor the words **Trinity** or **discipleship**, they are not in the Bible either.

[**E** The Rapture will be Public 5:20 thru 7:08]

Our English word for **rapture** comes to us from the **Latin** language. It is the word **rap-TUR-ro**, which is the **Latin** version of the **Greek** root word **har-PAD-zo**, which does appear in the Bible in several places. The most notable place is **1 Thessalonians 4:17**. It reads in the **Greek**, ¹ "Then, we the living who remain, ² together with them, (its speaking of those mentioned in **pervious verse** as the dead in Christ) ³ will be caught away in the clouds ⁴ for the meeting of the LORD in the air; ⁵ and so always with the LORD we will

be.” The word we see for the phrase in T-3, **will be caught away** is [1] *har-PAG-ges-SO-meh-tha* and means **‘to be seized, to be snatched, or to be taken by force.’** It brings with it the idea of seizing something in an open display. It is not a covert or secret action. God is going to openly snatch away His people in the nick of time. The removal of so many folks up to heaven will be seen by everyone on earth. You’ve probably watched at least a few of the many movies Hollywood has using this premise. The plot is always the same; one moment life on earth is progressing normally, and in the next instant, hundreds of millions of folks just disappear without any warning. Both the secular studios and Christian production companies have made assorted film versions using this idea. While the Bible doesn’t give us any numbers of people who will be taken, it does give us a ratio.

[**F** **Parable of Ten Virgins** **7:08 thru 8:23**]

Open up your Bible now to the **25th chapter** of **Matthew, verse 1**. It is Jesus talking here and He says, ¹ *“Then will be likened* ² *the kingdom of the heavens to ten virgins,* ³ *who having taken their lamps with them,* ⁴ *went forth to meet the bridegroom.”* I want to point out that this **25th chapter** immediately follows the **24th chapter** of **Matthew**, which is known as the **“Little Apocalypse”** due to its mention of many signs which precede the end of the age of Adam. The first thing we see looking at **T-1** is that Jesus is telling us a parable. The Greek word for, **will be likened**, is [3] *ho-moi-OH-the-se-tai* and it means **‘to compare, to become similar to or to resemble.’** It is used 3 times and in each case it is speaking of a parable. A **parable** is a **‘usually short fictitious story illustrating a moral attitude or religious principle.’** We see in **T-2** that Jesus is comparing the kingdom of the heavens to ten virgins.

[**G** **The Kingdom of God** **8:23 thru 9:56**]

The word we see for **kingdom** is *bah-sil-LEE-ah* and means **‘the literal and figurative kingdom, referring especially to the rule of Christ in believer’s hearts.’** This kingdom still requires a king and a realm. The **king** being discussed is **Jesus** Himself and the **realm** we find in **T-2** with the word for **heavens**. The Greek word we see is *oo-ran-NON*, which means **‘heavens, plural.’** The word *oo-ran-NOS* is the singular form of the word. There are **3 heavens** and since none are specified here, we can take it to mean Jesus is talking about all three: **sky**, the **cosmos** and **God’s throne**. The kingdom is being compared to 10 virgins. The word we see for **ten** is *DEH-kah* and means **‘the numerical value of 10.’** The

number 10 is a recurring symbolic figure throughout the OT, where it primarily symbolizes completeness or fullness. This concept is found in the creation as described in **Genesis**, where God uses **10 utterances** to create the world. In **Exodus**, we see God using the number 10 in His list of the **Commandments**. And here in **Matthew**, Jesus is using **10 virgins** to speak about His church approaching the end of the age.

[**H** Chaste, Virtuous and Faithful Virgins 9:56 thru 11:12]

The word we see for **virgins** is [1] *par-THEN-nois* and is referring to ‘**women who have never had sexual relations.**’ The Greek word seen here specifically refers to a woman beyond puberty, but who is not yet married. The church mentioned here is composed specifically of the followers of Jesus and is being compared to the bride of Christ. These virgins have never been promised to another god or avowed to another false religion. They are what I term as being “*eschatologically pure.*” **Eschatological** can be defined as, ‘**relating to the events approaching the end of the world**’—which in this case is the end of the age of Adam. The world will continue on past the end of the age of Adam, after being transformed into a **Garden of Eden** state, with all the oceans drained away. I do wish to point out that God is not hung up on sex. No, the mention of virgins here is to simply imply that the men and woman who compose the members of His true church are **chaste, virtuous and faithful** to the coming groom of Jesus Christ.

[**I** Taking Firm Hold of their Lamps 11:12 thru 12:39]

Look now at T-3. We see the virgins have taken their lamps with them. The word seen for **taken** is [2] *lab-BOO-say-eye* and in the 2 places it is used it means ‘**to actively take hold of or to lay hands on a lamp.**’ The word emphasizes the *volition* and *assertiveness* of the receiver. The word **volition** means ‘**the power of choosing or determining one’s own way.**’ The word we see for **lamps** is [3] *lam-PAD-das* and in the 3 places it is seen it is speaking of these same virgins with their lamps. The word is defined as ‘**a hand-held torch, using a wick saturated with oil.**’ It is a term often employed metaphorically to signify spiritual enlightenment and readiness. The lamps symbolize the preparedness of the believers for the coming of Christ. Folks, Jesus here is talking about those persons enrolled in some form of discipleship training. He is not talking about the assorted religions bearing the names we commonly hear mentioned today. True followers of Jesus are present in all the denominations. But, as a percentage of the assorted membership,

they will be relatively few and far between.

[J Escape to Go Meet Jesus 12:39 thru 14:04]

Now for T-4; ⁴ *went forth to meet the bridegroom.*” The word for **went forth** is *ex-EL-thon* and means **‘to proceed out, to depart, to elude or to escape.’** It brings with it the idea of leaving one place for another. It can also mean to go out from some assembly for the purpose of making something known or declared. It is used metaphorically to describe the emergence of words or actions coming from a person. The *Greek* word we see for **to meet** is [3] *hy-PAN-tes-sin*. It means **‘to encounter, or to go to meet someone.’** The word is used in the context of a significant welcoming event. The 3 times this word is used in Scripture, each time is talking about meeting **Jesus**. The word for **bridegroom** is [5] *nymph-FEE-ooH* and means **‘husband to be.’** It depicts the relationship between Jesus and His followers, as well as the liaison between God and Israel. In Jewish weddings the custom of the bridegroom’s arrival is a significant event, symbolizing **joy, celebration** and the fulfillment of a **covenant**. Which describes the Rapture perfectly.

[K To Lay Hold of Aggressively 14:04 thru 15:52]

The lamp the virgins are holding, represents the accumulation of their Godly knowledge. Lamps are vessels that contain oil. And this oil is a common Biblical symbol of God’s Holy Spirit. Thus, the lamps represent our minds, which are vessels in the sense that they contain information. And when filled with the Holy Spirit, they provide divine illumination not only for us, but for those around us who might become interested in learning what we know. Open your Bibles to **1 Corinthians 2:12**. It reads, ¹ *“Now we have received, ² not the spirit of the world, ³ but the Spirit who is from God, ⁴ so that we may know the things ⁵ having been granted to us by God.”* The word we find in T-1 for **have received** is [7] *el-lah-BO-men* which means **‘to take, to receive, or to lay hold of.’** It means to seize something aggressively by accepting that which is being offered. Once again the emphasis is on the *volition* of the person. T-2 is telling us that we are to reject that which the spirit of this world is offering. This explains the virgin’s rejection of this worldly or flawed information and instead they aggressively move to embrace who we read in T-3—the **Holy Spirit**—who is sent from **God**. Friends, the spirit of this world, who is providing most of the content coming out of the modern-day pulpits, is controlled by none other than **Satan**, via his evil horde.

[**L** To Grant Without Cost or Price 15:52 thru 17:25]

In T-4 we see the words **we may know**. In the Greek there is one word present, and it is [1] *EYE-doe-men*. It translates, **‘to perceive, to know or to be made aware of.’** Here the word is speaking of the mental perception required to be able to grasp spiritual truth. Apart from the direct assistance of the Holy Spirit, this divinely granted knowledge cannot be assimilated into our lamp, which is the vessel of God’s truth. It conveys the idea when someone says, *“I see what you mean.”* Note in T-5 that the information coming from the Holy Spirit is given *freely*. The word we see for **having been granted** is [1] *khar-IS-then-tah* and shares the same root as *KHAR-it-tee* as discussed back in **audio lesson #14**. This word only appears once and here it means **‘to grant, to give freely or to bequeath.’** The word **bequeath** means **‘to convey something to someone as a privilege or favor without cost or price.’** Here is additional proof that our effort to first seek and then absorb divinely granted information is not in any way earning or meriting our salvation, as the information being given is completely free.

[**Z** Some Final Thoughts 17:25 thru 18:46]

God’s interpretation of His Word is available to all persons, just for their asking. But asking involves an ongoing process utilizing the Holy Spirit and Jesus. This idea flows in perfect harmony that salvation cannot be secured or warranted in any manner. It is the free gift of God, but the gift comes out of the mind of God and not men. People like me are just folks God uses to point others to His truth. We are the carnival barkers, if you will, that shout from the street corners that inside God’s tent is where all the real action takes place. We provide illuminated glimpses, showing there is a path to follow to get to the Kingdom of God. We learn from the parable of the 10 virgins that they have figured this out and have gone away from their watered-down teaching and chose another path to go and meet the bridegroom. We will be continuing this discussion in the following audio sermon. **So, until next time my beloved, this has been Pastor Jefferson, speaking in God’s Holy name and for His glory alone. Amen!**