The Olivet Discourse—Part 9
"The Parable of the Ten Virgins"
Matthew 25:1-13

I. **The C_____ (vs. 1-3)**
   a. First Century Jewish Wedding Customs:
      i. **Engagement**—arranged with a dowry paid by the groom
      ii. **Betrothal**—vows exchanged, but separated for up to a year (cf. Matt. 1:8-9; Luke 2:5)
      iii. **Wedding Feast/Festival**—the groom goes to bring his wife to a great feast and her new home (Rev. 19:7-9; cf. Isa. 25:6-7; Matt. 22:1-14; John 2:1–2; 3:29; 14:3)

   b. ***Then*** = Jesus' return at the end of the Tribulation to judge the earth and establish ***the kingdom of heaven***

   c. ***ten virgins*** = professing members of the visible church
      i. ***parthenos*** (**παρθένος**) = "'virgin, young woman' 'a female person beyond puberty but not yet married and a virgin'" (cf. Ps. 45:14; Luke 1:27)

      ii. Outwardly they have a lot in common: friends of the bride, members of the wedding party, ***torches***, they all go out to wait for the ***bridegroom***

      iii. Inwardly they are very different: ***Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.***
         1. ***mōros*** (**μωρός**) = "foolish, unwise" (moron) (cf. Prov 10:14; 12:15–16; 14:33; 17:12; Matt. 5:22; 23:17; 7:24–27)

   d. ***bridegroom*** = Jesus returning for His bride (cf. Isa. 54:4–6; Ezek. 16:7–34; Hosea 2:19; Matt. 9:15; 22:11-14; Mark 2:19-20; Luke 5:34-35; John 3:29; Eph. 5:22ff; Rev. 18:23)

   e. ***oil*** = ??? (cf. Ex. 27:20–21; 30:23–25, 30; Ps 45:7; Zech. 4:1–14; Matt. 22:11–13; John 3:34; Rom. 8:9; Phil. 2:12–16; 2 Tim. 3:5; Heb 1:9; James 2:17; Rev. 3:10)

II. **The C_____ (vs. 4-9)**
   a. Falling ***to sleep*** is not negative; only an indicator that Jesus' delay may be long and require endurance

   b. ***Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him*** = an reference to Jesus' Second Coming (cf. Matt. 24:30-31)

   c. ***Midnight*** = "***in the middle of the night***" = like a thief in the night

   d. ***rose and trimmed their lamps*** = both groups believed they were saved and ready to meet their Lord & Savior

   e. ***Give us some of your oil*** = the five foolish virgins realized they were not ready and asked/demanded help

   f. ***No, there will not be enough for us and you too***
      i. Salvation involves a personal decision; you can't share it (cf. Rom. 9:1-3)

      ii. The five prudent virgins were being Honest, not rude (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16)

      iii. "***42*** ***"Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.***" (Matt. 24:42)

III. **The C_____ (vs. 10-13)**
   a. ***hose who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast*** = 5 prudent virgins enter the Millennial Kingdom (cf. Luke 13:25–28)

   b. ***while they were going away to make the purchase…the door was shut*** = 5 foolish virgins miss Jesus' Coming

   c. ***'Lord, lord…'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'*** Very similar to Matt. 7:21-23)

   d. ***Be on the alert then*** (cf. Matt. 24:36, 42, 44, 50; Luke 12:35; 21:34–36; 1 Thess. 5:2, 6)