**THE TEN VIRGINS AND THEIR OIL**

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CANNOT YOU SEE THAT OUR TIME IS SHORT

THE SIGNS ARE ALL AROUND US?

ARE YOU READY?

In this Newsletter, I want us to look closely at the parable that Jesus gave of the 10 Virgins in Matthew 25! But before we do that, I want you to Notice closely that this parable of the 10 Virgins follows immediately Matt. 24 where the disciples came to Jesus and asked Him what would be the sign of His coming and the end of the world! Jesus starts off telling them plainly to take heed that no man deceive you. He warns them – let no man deceive you and He mentions the word **Deceit** 4 different times, more than any other thing that He listed. He goes on to tell them that the whole earth would suffer because of man’s sin and that we would see the very same condition in our society that was in **Noah’s day** right before the great flood of judgment came and took all the world of the careless, the unbelieving and the ungodly away. Violence filled the earth in Noah’s day then and the imaginations of people were evil continually and surely dear reader we are here at that very point right now in the very same condition.

Jesus warned them and us that right before He returns for His Church, it will be as it was in the days of **Sodom and Gomorrah** with ungodly unbridled lust and sexual perversions of every kind – sodomy and transgenderism and surely those spirits have emerged and come out of the pit and have returned and are overtaking our society. There will be **Wars** and rumors of wars, nations and kingdoms threatening and rising up against one another – the nuclear war drums are now beating louder and louder. There will be **Famines** and droughts in different areas where the rain is shut off from heaven because people have forsaken God. You will hear of Great **Earthquakes** in different places across the world rattling our globe; There will be **Pestilences** – contagious, infectious epidemic diseases spreading through society. Jesus went on to say - that because **Iniquity** shall abound the love of many for God and one another shall wax cold!

Luke picks up Jesus’ warning in his gospel in chapter 21 that there will be fearful sights and great signs in the heavens and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring, men’s hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things that are coming on the earth. **Perplexity** is a picture of government leaders and people sitting wringing their hands with worried looks not knowing what to do or how to fix the world’s problems and the mess we’re in – and here we are just like he warned!! Jesus goes on to say – when you see these things coming to pass in frequency and magnitude, it means the earth and all creation is **groaning** in birth pangs of sorrow, she is in travail and pain as a woman about to give birth to a child, that is drawing near because of man’s transgressions that are heavy upon this earth! Jesus said when you see these things all converging in magnitude and frequency all at once, then to look up for your redemption draweth nigh, it’s even at our door! The King of Glory is about to descend and make his glorious and grand appearing in the clouds of glory to call us away! Ready or not, He’s coming for His Redeemed – He’s coming to get His beloved faithful Bride that has made herself ready! He’s coming for a Glorious Church without spot, blemish or wrinkle to take her back Home with Him to a Righteous beautiful and Holy Heaven!! Ready or not I am coming suddenly as a thief in the night! Woe to those who are left behind to face the Antichrist and the Beast system. Woe to those who will endure the wrath of Almighty God on a wicked world that rejected God’s Son and Salvation. Woe to the wicked, the sinner and backslider; Woe to the unbelievers, mockers and scoffers! Woe to those who had professed to be Christians and know the Lord who are lukewarm and have left their first love for Jesus! Woe unto those who used to have the Oil of God’s Holy Spirit but have let the precious Oil run low and the fire in their lamps have now gone out! This now brings us to this soul stirring lesson:

THE TEN VIRGINS - AND THEIR OIL

 In this true Parable that our Lord gives – The Bridegroom is Jesus and the 10 Virgins represent the Bride, His church of born again believers who are to be ready for Jesus’ soon return to get and take them back to Heaven to the marriage feast of God’s Son for His redeemed. I want us to look close at the Oil, at the Vessels and the Lamps in this parable. You must know the Oil represents the precious indwelling Holy Ghost Spirit of God. Without the Oil in your vessel and Lamp, there’ll be no **light** – no **fire** – no **illumination** - no **quickening** or **stirring** no **motivation**, and no **desire** because it has evaporated.

Dear reader, in this critical moment and time, the brightness of the fire of our Lamps and the amount of Oil we possess will surely be a reflection of how much time we spend with God in His Word, in daily praying and seeking His Holy face and His Will! There will be a spiritual hunger in our souls for nothing else but the spiritual things of God! There truly will be a desire in our hearts to want to go to Church, to be in the House of God to sing and worship with our precious brothers and sisters as we see the day of His approaching! Where is our hunger? Where is our commitment? Where is the coming together in unity, pulling and praying for one another, encouraging and lifting up? Our time here is about up! There are many slipping in this hour - Have we got the Oil? Is the Fire still burning as it did months and years ago? Is the vision still bright and clear?

 In this parable, all 10 Virgins had the same opportunity – had the same access to the Oil, even had the means and the money to purchase it. They even knew where to go and buy it. When Jesus gave this stirring parable, you can ask yourself the question – is there a danger of waiting too late to get serious? You can wait too late to get the Oil!! There is a fearful danger of not having enough to keep your lamp burning in this dark world. Have you checked your Oil lately? Have you stopped and took time to examine your Oil level? Are you still stirred and moved in spirit? Do you have enough to burn through the night till morning comes?

**How sincere were the Wise Virgins?**

Just how much did they desire to be ready for when the Cry came – “Behold the Bridegroom cometh, **He’s here** - go ye out to meet Him?” They were so sincere and had such a longing desire for Him, that they took Oil in their vessels with their Lamps – which means they had a backup supply! We are not going to let our Lamps go out!! O God, this is it - it’s a once in a lifetime chance and opportunity and if we miss it, we have missed it forever!!

THE DANGER IN DELAYS

 Notice, I felt the Holy Ghost pointing out to me the phrase Jesus used when He said: While the Bridegroom **Tarried** ! Because the Bridegroom was a long time in Coming - He didn’t come as soon as they expected and because there was a delay, they all Slumbered and Slept. Look closely at the word Tarried. We have been taught and heard it preached all our life that Jesus is coming soon – just any day! But because He has tarried and has not returned yet, people let up watching for Him – they lose their zeal and vision and begin to be occupied with other things. It is a fact that people get slack when there is a Delay! It happens in the spiritual as well as the natural; when there’s a delay, it’s easy to lose our expectancy and desire. The excitement wanes and other things occupy our minds. **There is a danger in delays!** Oh how soon revival fire dies! I’m writing this Newsletter for us all not to lose our desire for our Lord Jesus. Keep the desire and fire burning because He is surely COMING any time now – Be ready and watching! If you miss the Lord’s coming and the Rapture – you have lost IT ALL! You will have missed the grandest object of all time and eternity – you will have missed the loving Saviour Jesus - missed all the Glories and beauties of Heaven and the eternal joys that await there. You will miss being amidst the angels and with the redeemed precious loved ones, singing and rejoicing in boundless peace and love through endless ages!! It will be one glorious day that will never end in the presence of God where sorrows are never known.

**Mark 13:34** - For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

 **35** Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

 **36** Lest coming suddenly he find you **sleeping**.

 **37** And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

THE SLUMBERING AND THE SLEEPING

 I have never heard any preachers preach or read of any writers explaining the meaning of these two words Slumbered and Slept, but I felt the Holy Ghost speaking to my heart and opening to me the meaning. There are 2 words that I want us to look at very closely in this parable! The words – Slumbered and Slept. If there was not a difference in these two words, Jesus would not have made a distinction between them. The word **Slumbered** means to nod off into a light sleep. When you are in that state, the least noise or someone’s voice can easily arouse you and wake you up. In this parable, Jesus said that all 10 Virgins were tired and weary from the long waiting. (Did you know that our every day busyness, burdens and cares of life, our everyday pressures and things we must look after can wear us down physically and when this happens, it drains us mentally – and here’s where the danger comes in – we then can easily become drained Spiritually. You lose your fight, you lose the press and the GO YE inside you!)

Down deep in your inner man, your spirit is where you really live, it’s where the Holy Ghost abides, where dreams and desires are made and kept alive. It’s in the Heart where the Vision is kept burning and shining bright. Your problems and trials after a while can cause you to lose motion and the inward power of exertion. You easily become dull spiritually to the point that you become drowsy – the inward strength is dried up and you sit down and after awhile you lay down and fall asleep. You are out of it! This is what Jesus said to guard against – whatever you do, pray and stay spiritually alert inside your Heart!

 Jesus said that out of the 10 Virgins, the 5 Wise were tired just like the others, but they were more alert and awake inside their hearts than the 5 foolish. The 5 Wise in their thinking was saying to themselves - Yes, we are tired, the hour is late but we know deep in our hearts the Bridegroom is coming – we’ve got the assurance – We know His promise and Word is true! We don’t know the exact time of His appearing and clarion call, but we are going to stay Ready! I’m here to tell you that you can get up in the morning with Jesus on your mind, you can go to work, do your chores and have an inward prayer going on inside your heart. You can go to bed and say Thank you Lord, I praise you Jesus – I might be tired and sleepy but I dearly love you and can’t wait till you come! I really want to see you and want to go back with you Jesus – fill my Heart O blessed Lord with your Holy Oil – KEEP ME FILLED, Keep me stirred O God and burning bright!!

Again – have you checked your Oil? Have you taken the time to stop and prioritize your spiritual commitment to be always ready when Jesus returns? Soon the Trump of God will close the day!

**Are you Spiritually taking care of your House?**

As Jesus was coming to the end of Mat. 24 He gave us all a warning: **Mt 24:42** - Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. **43** - But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch (what hour of the night) the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. **44** - Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. **45** - Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

**46** - Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. **47** - Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Are we watching and praying over our homes and our loved ones? Is your home in unity? Are things tidied up for the Lord to come? Does the Holy Ghost abide in our homes and is the presence of Jesus in our home and family?

IT’S HIGH TIME TO STAY AWAKE NOW

 My hearts cry in this message is – We must stay prayerful, alert and awake in this hour! Whatever you do – Pay the price and get the Oil and keep your Lamps burning. Don’t go to sleep and let the fire go out!!

 Jesus goes on to say concerning the 10 Virgins – While the Bridegroom **tarried**, in what they thought was a long wait – They heard a Loud Cry - “Behold the Bridegroom Cometh – Go ye out to meet Him! Every one of the professing Brides arose to trim their lamps. This is when a horrible sudden fear struck through the hearts of the foolish! They became suddenly aware that their lamps had gone out! We have let our vessels run out of Oil in our lamps and we have no light to go forth and answer the call. (Oh dear God) they turned to the wise and cried to them – Give us, please give us of your Oil, our lamps are gone out!! Not so said the Wise, we can’t – we’ve only got enough for us, you will have to go to those who sell and buy for yourselves.

 If the Loud Trumpet blast of God sounded right now, where would it find each and every professing Christian? Where would they be and what will they be doing and entertaining? Where will their hearts and minds be?

**You cannot borrow a relationship!**

You cannot borrow a relationship from someone else and ride in on their anointing and their prayers and blessings – you must get the Oil for yourself. This Salvation is personal. It goes much deeper than claiming you are a Christian, that you’ve been baptized and you go to Church. It is more than hearing sermons from good preachers and hearing good gospel singing! It is good when you can drink from someone else’s well when they get blessed – But have you got your own Oil? Does the Spirit of God move on you and bless you? Is the fire burning in your Heart in your desire for Jesus?

WHAT’S IN THE OIL?

 You might say – What’s in the Oil? God’s Divine presence and overcoming power is in the Oil. Jesus has this Holy Oil and He wants to give it to you.

**Hebrews 1:9** – Speaking of Jesus, prophesied in the Psalm of David in Ps. 45:7 – Thou hast loved Righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God even thy God hath anointed thee with the Oil of Gladness above thy fellows.

 I want you to know that when you get this Oil, there’ll be joy and gladness in your soul. The anointing is in the Oil that helps you become an overcomer in your trials. There’s strength and comfort in this Blessed Oil. When you get it, you’ll shout, you’ll want to praise God and worship the Lord with Gladness. You’ll be glad that you are redeemed and saved - It will bubble out of you in Songs of Thanksgiving. There will be a witness in your heart that you are Rapture ready – you’ll know that you’re a child of God and you belong to Him. There’ll be excitement and a go ye in your Heart, you will have a testimony, an inward unction in your heart will move you with a desire to do something to help and encourage others on your way to Heaven. Dear reader, if you’re praying and got this Blessed Oil, it will keep you spiritually alive, it’ll keep you on your feet, it’ll keep you going, you will not want to sit down, give up or quit – WE ARE ALMOST HOME, keep looking up and listening for the royal Call – Behold He’s Coming soon and will not tarry. Jesus said – Behold I come quickly and my reward is with me to give unto every man according as his work shall be! I am coming for those who are watching and ready and will love my appearing!

THE SAD ENDING OF THE FOOLISH

 When the loud Cry at midnight went forth to go out to meet the Bridegroom, all the Virgins arose and then suddenly it dawned on the 5 foolish, “Our Lamps are gone out! We have went into a dead sleep!” They said to the Wise – give us of your Oil, our Lamps are gone out!! We’ll never know how much they pleaded and the fear that went through them – we let our Lamps run out of Oil – we have no light – we’ve slept the sleep of death. Oh God have mercy on us. We should have done like the Wise and went and filled our Vessels and got a back-up for the long night! We should have taken the time to check our levels to make sure we had enough – Oh God!!

 The Wise Virgins no doubt told the foolish – We’ve only got enough for ourselves to make it! We took it serious and took heed – we went and got our Oil and paid the price for it. You had the same opportunity and time that we did. We never lost our desire for Jesus, our longing to be with our Beloved Bridegroom!! We kept alive our Vision of Heaven.

 Jesus said, the Wise that were ready went with their Lord into the marriage feast and the Door was SHUT, while the foolish went to buy, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE!!

 No amount of words could ever describe how it will feel on that day when it finally dawns on people that they have missed it!! They missed the grandest object of all time and eternity of forever being with Jesus in the beauties and joys of Heaven! The Lord has come and we have been left behind! There’s no second chance, we’ve lost it all! When the foolish Virgins arrived at the Door they found it SHUT! They began to pound and knock on the door saying Lord, Lord, please open to us and let us in, but the Bridegroom’s voice on the other side said – “I know you not!!” They could hear the rejoicing of the Redeemed on the other side of the Door but it’s too late! We’ll never know the cold numbing fear biting and gripping their lost souls as they all turned to walk away into the dark unknown that awaited them, in a doomed world now awaiting God’s divine wrath! No where to run now and hide from God’s judgments upon the Lost!! Dear reader, do you have the Oil? Is your Lamp trimmed and burning bright for Jesus? Are you looking and longing for His Coming? Has your love for Him grown stronger? Is He your everything in these closing hours? I (this writer) am ready and desiring to go Home now more than ever!! I’m ready to join my precious loved ones over there who are waiting – what a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see; when I look upon His face, the One who saved me by His Grace; when He takes me by the hand and leads me through that promise land, what a day, O what a day that will be!! **May God Bless all my Readers!**