

## The Sermons of Jesus

### Lesson 7

#### Ready or Not

Tuesday night of the Passion Week on the Mt. of Olives, Jesus answered His disciple's questions about the signs of His second coming. Since no one knows exactly when that will be (Matt 24:36), Jesus taught on the necessity of readiness and faithfulness until His return.

1. What command did Jesus give His disciples in Matt 24:42, 44? What will be the reward to the servant who is faithful, and the consequences to the evil servant who is not expecting Him (Matt 24:45-51)?
2. What was the difference between the virgins in the parable of Matt 25:1-12? What is the application for us (Matt 25:13)?
3. The parable of the talents focuses on readiness proven by serving. Read Matt 25:14-30. What are the varying opportunities for service given in v.14-15?
4. What did each servant do with the talents given him? How did the master "settle accounts" with each of them?
5. Who do you think the master who went away for "a long time" represents? Who do you think each of the servants represents? What do the talents represent?

6. Notice that the rewards to the first two servants were to be put in charge of “many more things”. What was the commendation they received? Would their future service be a joyful experience (Matt 25:21)?
  
7. What mistakes did the wicked and lazy slave make (v 24-27)? Did he really know the character of the master (v 24)? What was the proof of his wickedness and laziness (v 27)? What was his fate (v 30)?
  
8. When a believer in Christ demonstrates his faithfulness how will Jesus reward him at His second coming? What about professing Christians who prove that they do not belong to God because they are not ready, faithful or bearing fruit when Jesus comes back (Matt 25:28-29)?
  
9. Matthew 25:31-46 looks forward to when Jesus comes back in all His glory to rule and to judge. Who will be gathered before Him in order to be judged (25:32)? What is the image He uses for the separation in v. 32-33?
  
10. Obviously, when the conquering King comes with all His power and authority everyone will bow to Him and act like they are on His side. How will He judge who the true believers are in v. 34? What is the fruit of the true believers that proves their faithfulness (v 35-40)? What will be the fate of the unbelievers on His left (v 41-46)?