

## **Understanding the New Testament Gospels**

### Ten Virgins (Mt. 25:1-13)

#### **I.** Background information.

1. The elements of a traditional (O. T.) marriage:
  - 1) The parents of the bride and groom make a contract for the future marriage.
  - 2) When the groom comes of age, he goes to the bride's home and brings her back to his father's house.
  - 3) The marriage is consummated with witnesses.
  - 4) Later, the marriage is celebrated at the wedding feast.
2. This passage is clearly and extended metaphor "shall be likened" (v. 1).
3. The return of Jehovah was the object of faith during the last part of Law (Lu. 2:25).
4. The return of Jehovah will be the object of faith during the Tribulation (Psa. 37:7, 9, 34).

#### **II.** The ten virgins:

1. All ten are virgins with lamps.
2. All ten go to meet the groom.
3. There is no difference till midnight.
4. Five take extra oil, and are selfish with it.
5. Five lose focus, do not place value on the return.

#### **III.** Tribulation saints watch for His return (Mt. 24:42-51).

1. The virgins represent the entry requirements into the Kingdom from the Heavens after its mystery form.
2. The groom is not identified here but cannot be Christ since at His Second coming He will have been with His Bride/church for seven years (Is. 54:5-10)..
3. The Groom is the Father (Jer. 3:8, 14).
4. The five foolish represent false profession.
5. The five focused represent saints.
6. No bride is mentioned but has to be Israel, the Church as a bride is still a mystery at this time (Eph. 5:32).
7. The Son of Man is not the groom but fixes the time with His coming.
8. The Father comes to take His bride and the union occur at Christ's Second Coming (Zech. 14:3-5).