

The background is a painting of a city at night. A central tower with a lantern on top is the focal point. The city is illuminated with warm yellow and orange lights, contrasting with the dark blue and black night sky. In the foreground, a dark boat is visible on the water, and a path leads towards the city. The overall style is impressionistic with visible brushstrokes.

The Wise Virgins

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MORNING READING

Isaiah 43 New International Version

18 “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. 19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. 20 The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland,

to give drink to my people, my chosen,
21 the people I formed for myself that
they may proclaim my praise.

Numbers 20:7-8

And the LORD said to Moses, 8“Take the staff and assemble the congregation. You and your brother Aaron are to speak to the rock while they watch, and it will pour out its water. You will bring out water from the rock and provide drink for the congregation and their livestock.”

ISAIAH 43: 20B:

I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen.

MAIN READING

Matthew 25 - New International Version

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

1 At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. **2** Five of them were foolish and five were wise. **3** The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. **4** The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.

5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ 7 “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ 9 ““No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

10 “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. 11 “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’ 12 “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’ 13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Matthew 25: 3

The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them.

MATTHEW 25:5

5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

6 “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

7 “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

VERSE 9, SAY, MATT 25:9

‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

MATTHEW 25:10

“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

Philippians 2:12 King James Bible

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out

your own salvation with fear and trembling.

MATTHEW 25:11

“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’ 12 “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

Proverbs 4:7 King James Version

7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom:

and with all thy getting get understanding.

MATTHEW 25:13

“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Matthew 23:15 New International Version

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are.