

Title: Taking Responsibility
Pastor: Phillip Boshoff
Date: 19 July 2009
Time: 18:00



Foolish virgins

Matthew 25:1-13

¹"Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²"Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. ³"Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴"but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. ⁵"But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. ⁶"And at midnight a cry was *heard*: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' ⁷"Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸"And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹"But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰"And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. ¹¹"Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' ¹²"But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

A foolish prophet

1 Kings 13:4-23

⁴So it came to pass when King Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, who cried out against the altar in Bethel, that he stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, "Arrest him!" Then his hand, which he stretched out toward him, withered, so that he could not pull it back to himself. ⁵The altar also was split apart, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD. ⁶Then the king answered and said to the man of God, "Please entreat the favor of the LORD your God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored to me." So the man of God entreated the LORD, and the king's hand was restored to him, and became as before. ⁷Then the king said to the man of God, "Come home with me and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward." ⁸But the man of God said to the king, "If you were to give me half your house, I would not go in with you; nor would I eat bread nor drink water in this place. ⁹"For so it was commanded me by the word of the LORD, saying, 'You shall not eat bread, nor drink water, nor return by the same way you came.'"¹⁰ So he went another way and did not return by the way he came to Bethel. ¹¹Now an old prophet dwelt in Bethel, and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel; they also told their father the words which he had spoken to the king. ¹²And their father said to them, "Which way did he go?" For his sons had seen which way the man of God went who came from Judah. ¹³Then he said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me." So they saddled the donkey for him; and he rode on it, ¹⁴and went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak. Then he said to him, "Are you the man of God who came from Judah?" And he said, "I *am*." ¹⁵Then he said to him, "Come home with me and eat bread." ¹⁶And he said, "I cannot return with you nor go in with you; neither can I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place. ¹⁷"For I have been told by the word of the LORD, 'You shall not eat bread nor drink water there, nor return by going the way you came.'"¹⁸ He said to him, "I too *am* a prophet as you *are*, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD, saying, 'Bring him back with you to your house, that he may eat bread and drink water.'" (He was lying to him.) ¹⁹So he went back with him, and ate bread in his house, and drank water. ²⁰Now it happened, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came to the prophet who had brought him back; ²¹and he cried out to the man of God who came from Judah, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Because you have disobeyed the word of the LORD, and have not kept the commandment which the LORD your God commanded you, ²²'but you came back, ate bread, and drank water in the place of which *the LORD* said to you, 'Eat no bread and drink no water,' your corpse shall not come to the tomb of your fathers.'" ²³So it was, after he had eaten bread and after he had drunk, that he saddled the donkey for him, the prophet whom

he had brought back. ²⁴When he was gone, a lion met him on the road and killed him. And his corpse was thrown on the road, and the donkey stood by it. The lion also stood by the corpse.

1: Your salvation

Philippians 2:12-13

¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you 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; ¹³for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

2: Your situation

Luke 15:17-19

¹⁷"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹"and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."

3: Your works

2 Corinthians 5:9-11

⁹Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. ¹¹Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

4: Your calling

2 Peter 1:10-11

¹⁰Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:1

¹I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called...

5: Your gift

1 Timothy 4:14

¹⁴Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

2 Timothy 1:6

⁶Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

6: Your sin

2 Samuel 12:13

So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

Genesis 3:11-13

¹¹And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" ¹²Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." ¹³And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."