

...LESSON 1 – THE CONTEXT OF MATTHEW 24

.....judgment upon that generation / lamenting the city / destruction of temple...

...LESSON 2 - PRE-MATURE SIGNS OF DESTRUCTION

.....wars, famine, earthquakes, false Christs...

...LESSON 3 – WARNINGS TO THE CHRISTIANS.

......hated, betrayed, delivered up & put to death... / abomination of desolation...

...LESSON 4, FLEEING A CONDEMNED CITY...

.....winter, Sabbath, pregnant, nursing children / time shortened (made quick)...

...LESSON 5, THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN...

.....a challenging text; important to set in context...

...LESSON 6, TRANSITION & SECOND COMING...

.....no signs, specific day & hour...



...read 25:1-13

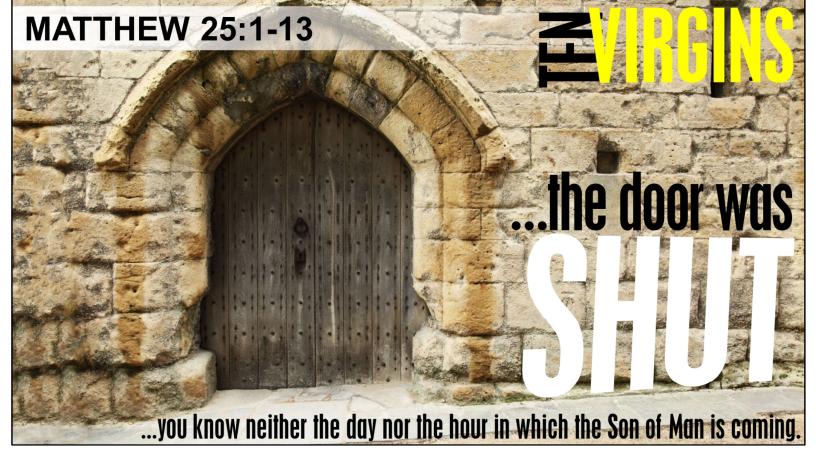
...[the kingdom], the church is captured in the image of the 10 virgins. All 10 are Christians; but not all 10 have the hope of heaven...

.....the difference is a matter of preparation – 5 prepared, 5 did not...

.....oil is a key in the text – oil lights the lamp...

.....good works light the way to the Lord (Mt 5:14-16; Php 2:15)

.....good works are emphasized in NT (1 Pe 2:11-12; Tit 2:7, 14; 3:8, 14; Eph 2:10)



...when the bridegroom comes, those who are ready go in with him...

.....remember "taken" from the previous chapter...

....."to take to one's self ... associate, companion ... take one's betrothed home..."

...those who are not ready will be left outside...

....."to send away ... to bid go away ... to give up ... keep no longer..."

...[be ready], we don't know when...

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...read 24:14-30

.....Jesus has gone to a far country (heaven)...

.....he left His servants (us!!) in charge of His goods (the gospel, the church, moral lives, imitating Him)...

...different ability, differing responsibility...

.....but, do not use that as an excuse to not do more, to not grow...

.....notice, the 5 talent man & the 2 talent man worked & grew according to their ability...

[NEXT]

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...the 1 talent man DID NOT USE his talent; he had the ability, but did as little as possible...

...God is not happy with as little as possible...

...he "hid" the talent – recall Mt 5:14-16, we can't hide & be pleasing to God...

...the 1 talent man testified against himself (v 24-25); see v 26...

.....shall we be afraid (v 25) of doing God's will, or of not doing it? Jms 4:17

...heaven / heaven / hell... (all were servants)

[NEXT]

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MATTHEW 25:31-46

For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now, 'If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?' (1 PETER 4:17-18)



LAS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE MY BRETHREN, YOU DID IT TO ME.

...read 25:31-46

...this is not a parable – this is Jesus speaking to us straight about the judgment...

...sheep & goats used as a figure – faithful & unfaithful (again, the non-Christian is not even pictured. Why not? [1 Pe 4:17]

...what distinguishes the sheep from the goats? It's the same thing as the wise from the foolish and the good & faithful from the wicked & lazy...

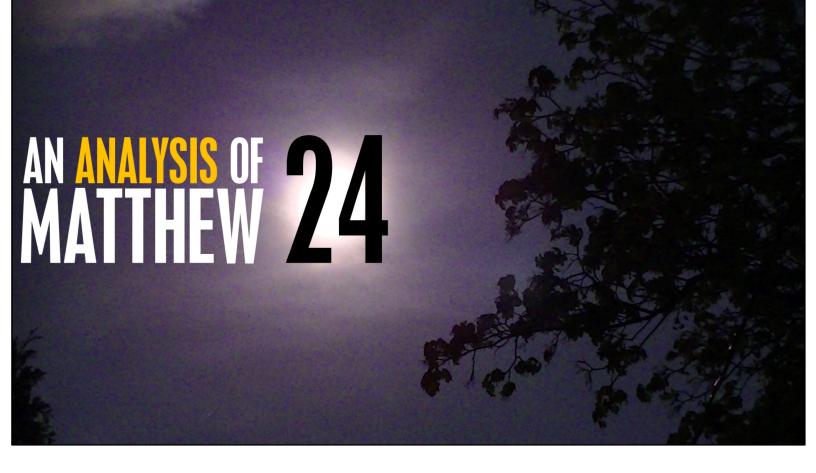
...works – what did they do? [V 40]

...exact opposite for the wicked – we need to be doing good!!

...v 46 – everlasting punishment / eternal life...

[NEXT]

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...next week, Luke 17...

...misunderstanding Luke 17 can cause us to misunderstand Matthew 24.



...next week we continue, looking at Matthew 24:11-15...