

/We will now begin the eighteenth lecture on Matthew. /The main text is Matthew chapter 25. /The title is “The Bridegroom.”

/First, the parable of the ten virgins. /The parable of the ten virgins. /Verses 1-13.
/Second, the parable of the talents. /Verses 14-30. /Third, the Great White Throne Judgment. /Verses 31-46.

/Read verse 1. /“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

/Here, the kingdom of heaven refers to the church generation of the New Testament. /Here are ten virgins. /Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

/Verses 2-6. /Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

/Ten virgins were waiting for the bridegroom. /In Judea, wedding ceremonies take place at night. /Thus, the bride and her bridesmaids wait for the bridegroom at the bride’s house. /When the bridegroom comes, the bride and the bridesmaids go outside to meet him.

/Likewise, we believers must prepare to meet Jesus Christ, who is our Bridegroom. /Here, the five wise virgins took oil in jars along with their lamps. /However, the foolish virgins did not take any oil with the lamps.

/Late into the night, /the ten virgins became drowsy and fell asleep. /Right at that moment, the bridegroom came. /Then the virgins went out to meet him. /The wise virgins received him with lamps with oil.

/However, the lamps of the foolish virgins were dying, as there was no oil. /Hence, they were unable to receive the bridegroom with joy. /Here, the kingdom of heaven refers to the church in the New Testament. /The bridegroom symbolizes Jesus Christ.

/Both the wise and foolish virgins are believers. /They all attended church. /The five foolish virgins also went out to meet Jesus. /They also waited for Jesus’ return.

/Therefore, we can see the foolish virgins as believers. /However, the five foolish virgins could not receive the glorious salvation. /Even though they received salvation, their salvation was shameful.

/Here, “lamp” symbolizes good and righteous deeds. /Matthew 5:14-16 /Ephesians 5:8-9 /Good, righteous and true deeds are the lamp. /“Oil” is the grown spirit. /The spirit has grown with the truth and the Holy Spirit.

/This is the power of faith. /This is power and faith that helps us go through hardships. /The five wise virgins were well prepared to go through hardships. /The five foolish virgins had lamps. /However, they did not have power of faith.

/They all became drowsy and slept. /The hardship was great and thus, both the wise and foolish virgins became drowsy and slept. /This means that all spirits will fall asleep in the Last Days because the hardships will be too great.

/Here, “midnight” is the night of hardships. /It means that there will be great hardships because Jesus returns. /Matthew 24:29-31 /Revelation 11:7-11 /Daniel 8:11-14 /There will be a great hardships before Jesus comes.

/Thus, all the lamps were becoming dim. /It became a time in which it was difficult to keep one’s faith. /The night of hardships and the night of sins became deeper. /It is difficult to keep one’s faith at such times.

/Therefore, we must be well prepared with oil on a daily basis. /We must prepare our faith and power. /We must be prepared to overcome hardships and sins. /We must be believers who can go through the lions’ den.

/We must be believers who can enter the furnace. /We must prepare our faith in times of peace. /We must pray more in such times, /and we must be strengthened by the power of God.

/Also, we must be prepared to overcome great hardships. /2 Corinthians 4:10-12 /While the foolish virgins went out to buy oil, the bridegroom arrived. /As a result, the five foolish virgins were not able to participate in the glorious salvation.

/The five wise virgins participated in glorious salvation. /They participated in the salvation where they received rewards. /The bridegroom said to the five foolish virgins, “I don’t know you.”

/Verse 12. /“But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’

/Here, the bridegroom said, “I don’t know you.” /This does not mean that they are not saved. /It means that their faith was not recognized. /Again, the five foolish virgins were indeed saved.

/However, it was shameful salvation. /They did not have the power of faith to overcome hardships. /Therefore, we must have faith like that of the five wise virgins.

/Verse 13. /“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

/It says to keep watch. /Our spirits must be awake. /We must not be intoxicated by the world. /We must not indulge in sin. /We must keep watch and pray. /We must be prepared and ready to receive the Lord when He returns.

/This is like building the ark in the time of Noah. /The ark also signifies preparation of faith. /We must be prepared to overcome the hardship of the flood. /It is also said that we do not know the day or the hour.

/No one knows the day or the hour of Jesus' return. /Nobody knows when Jesus will come. /It says the Lord will come like a thief. /24:43 /Therefore, we must always expect Jesus to come and prepare for His return.

/Verse 14. /"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them.

/Read verses 15-18. /To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

/There was a master. /The master gave five talents of money to one servant, two talents to another, and one talent to the other. /Here, the "master" symbolizes God. /The "servants" are the believers. /The "talents of money" symbolize spiritual gifts.

/God gave each of us a gift and a mission. /2 Timothy 2:20-21 /There are big articles and small articles. /We believers all received spiritual gifts from God.

/There are people who received many gifts and also there are people who received a few. /No matter how big or small it is, we all are given gifts. /There is no one who did not receive talents. /Everyone received talents.

/However, the only difference is that there are some who received five talents and those who received one talent. /One talent of gold is expensive. /One talent is thirty-four kilograms of gold.

/How expensive this is! /At the time, this was worth 6,000 denarii. /6,000 denarii. /This was how much a young man at the time would earn if he worked for 6,000 days. /One denarius was one day's wages.

/A strong young man would earn 6,000 denarii if he worked for 6,000 days. /One talent is thirty-four kilograms of gold. /Therefore, this teaches us that the mission and gift given to us by God is very expensive and important.

/Verse 16. /The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more.

/The man who received the five talents went at once and put his money to work. /He gained five more talents. /How did he work? /He immediately obeyed. /He went at once to work.

/We must obey God immediately when God commands us to do something. /We must not say, "I will do it later," but we must immediately obey God's commands. /Ephesians 5:16 /It says to make the most of every opportunity. /Isaiah 6:2

/Abraham immediately left his country, his people and his father's household. /Elijah also went to Zarephath of Sidon at once. /In Acts 8, Philip also obeyed at once. /What is the second characteristic of the man who received five talents?

/It says, he "put his money to work." /It means he invested all five talents. /That is, he did his best for the spiritual gift he was given. /He gave his best efforts.

/The Philadelphia church did their best. /The third characteristic of the man who received five talents was his faithfulness. /He did his best. /He worked hard /from morning to evening.

/He did his best whether it rained or snowed. /Revelation 2:10 /2 Timothy 4:7 /As a result, the man who received five talents was able to gain five more.

/Verse 17. /So also, the one with the two talents gained two more.

/The one who received two talents was also faithful. /He, too, gained two more.

/Verse 18. /But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

/However, the man who received one talent went to dig a hole and hid his master's money. /This man was lazy. /He fooled around. /He did nothing. /Then a long time went by.

/Accounting is to calculate money. /After long time, the master returned for accounting. /At that time, the man who received five talents brought five more talents. /His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

/Then the master said, "You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things," /and the master complimented him. /Revelation 3:8 /Luke 16:10-12 /When we are faithful with the smallest things, God will put us in charge of many things.

/If we are faithful with what we are doing now, God will put us in charge of more things. /If we keep our faith this world, we will receive glory in heaven. /We will participate in the glory of God with the Lord.

/Verse 22. /"The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'

/The man with the two talents was also faithful and gained two more. /He received the same reward and compliment from the master. /Whoever does his best and is faithful with the gifts entrusted to him will be complimented. /Romans 12:3/ Luke 12:48 /Luke 16:10

/Therefore, God requires many things from those who receive many. /For those who are entrusted with a few, God requires a few things. /If we faithfully do our best with our given gifts, we will receive rewards and compliments.

/Verse 24. /“Then the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.

/The man who received one talent dug a hole and put the money in it. /What did he do wrong? /First, he did not know how precious the gift given by God was. /He thought lightly of the gift.

/He overlooked the given gift and his position. /He disregarded the entrusted mission. /Second, he did not know his master. /He thought his master was stingy. /He thought that his master harvested where he did not sow.

/This man did not know about God. /God sows and harvests. /Ecclesiastes 11:6 /2 Corinthians 9:6-10 /He gives seed and food to those who sow the seed. /Luke 6:38

/Our God is the God who gives generously. /He is the God who gives generously when we ask God. /James 1:5 /Third, the man did not know about the principles of business. /That is, he did not know that one reaps what he sows.

/If we sow the truth, we can harvest the truth. /If we sow righteousness, we can harvest righteousness, /and if we sow goodness, we can harvest goodness. /However, if we sow sin, we will harvest sin. /Fourth, the man hid the money under the ground.

/He wasted time. /He was greedy. /He indulged in the world. /He cared only about worldly works. /He sinned. /He did not do the work of faith.

/Fifth, he was idle and lazy. /The master said to him, “You wicked, lazy servant!” /We must turn away from wicked things and from laziness. /We must cherish the gifts given to us by God.

/Verse 26. /“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?

/The master replied, “You wicked, lazy servant!” /Those who do not obey God are wicked and lazy. /To be lazy is to be wicked. /To be lazy is to not do the things we are to do.

/If we do not evangelize when we should, we become lazy. /If we do not preach the Bible at Sunday school, then we are lazy.

/Verse 27. /Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

/The bankers refer to the bank. /Luke 19:23 /If we put money in a bank, we can receive it back with interest. /Here, “interest” signifies a state of natural development.

/“Interest” signifies that there is natural development in the world. /However, the man who buried the talent in the ground stood in the way of natural development. /He blocked the natural development.

/All things in the world naturally develop and grow. /However, he blocked what was natural.

/Verse 28. /“Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents.

/It says, “Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents.” /If we do not use the gifts given us, our gifts will be taken away. /If we do not take responsibility for our given duties as deacons, the duties will be taken away. /God gave us health and materials. /He also gave us time, environments and positions. /He gave us a mission.

/If we do not work with these and hide them under the ground, all the things will be taken away. /If we do not preach the gospel, our abilities will fade. /As we continue to preach the gospel, our abilities and powers will increase. /It says, “give it to the one who has the ten talents.”

/This means that gifts should be given to the worker. /If we keep working with the gifts given by God, the gifts will grow. /Therefore, we must not hide the gifts given by God, and we must be faithful to God when He entrusts us with gifts.

/Verse 29. /For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.

/It says, “everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.” /Whoever is not faithful, what he has will be taken from him.

/Verse 30. /And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

/The worthless servant is the man who does not work. /It is he who is not faithful. /He will be thrown outside.

/We will continue with Matthew 25:31.

/Verse 31. /“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.

/Jesus will come in His glory. /When Jesus returns, there will be the Millennial Kingdom. /Then there will be the Great White Throne Judgment. /Revelation 20:11-12

/Verse 32. /All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

/The Lord will gather all the nations. /He will gather both believers and unbelievers. /The people on the right side will be the sheep and people on the left side will be the goats. /The sheep on the right symbolize the chosen. /The goats on the left symbolize the unchosen.

/The sheep on the right are those who are chosen by God. /At the time, all believers since the creation of the world will stand on the right. /All the unbelievers since the creation of the world will stand on the left. /Then the sheep on the right will inherit the eternal heaven.

/Verse 35. /For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

/Jesus said to the sheep on the right. /“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, /I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, /I was a stranger and you invited me in, /I needed clothes and you clothed me, /I was sick and you looked after me, /I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

/Then the righteous, the believers, on the right will ask, “When did we see you hungry and thirsty?” /They will say, “We did not serve you, Lord.”

/Verse 40. /“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’

/The King replied. /He replied to the sheep on the right. /“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” /To help a believer is to help Jesus.

/When we help a believer who was put in prison for holding on to his faith, we are helping Jesus. /When we look after a sick believer, we are looking after Jesus.
/Matthew 10:41-42

/Anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. /Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward. /We must help believers. /On the contrary, those who persecute believers, persecute Jesus.

/Paul persecuted believers before he believed in Jesus. /“Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

/Verse 41. /“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

/The Lord will say to those on the left, “Depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.” /Those who are on the left are the unchosen. /Jesus spoke to them. /“I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat.”

/“I was thirsty and you gave nothing to drink, /I was a stranger and you did not invite me in.” /Then, the unchosen replied, “Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty?”

/Verse 45. /“He will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

/Jesus said, “whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.” /They did not look after the believers who were sick, /they did not visit believers

in prison, /and they did not give them something to eat when the believers were hungry.

/It means that they did not do these things to Jesus. /To help believers is to help Jesus, /and to persecute believers is to persecute Jesus. /Therefore, the unchosen on the left will go into the eternal fire.

/They will go to hell. /Revelation 1:7 /Jesus will come on the clouds. /It says that every eye will see, even those who pierced Jesus. /Even those who nailed Jesus to the cross will see.

/To persecute and pierce the church is to pierce Jesus. /This is because the church is the body of Christ. /Therefore, to persecute a church is to persecute the body of Christ.

/It is to persecute Jesus. /Therefore, the unchosen are subject to eternal curses and judgment. /We must help believers. /We must help them when they are in trouble or imprisoned while keeping their faith.

/If a believer is imprisoned because of his faith, we must help his family. /Then we will also receive a reward. /We will share his blessings because we shared in his work.

/Verse 46. /“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

/They will receive the Great White Throne Judgment. /The unchosen will enter eternal hell. /They will not die in hell. /They will receive eternal suffering and punishment.

/However, the chosen will have eternal life. /They will participate in eternal bliss in heaven.

/Here we will conclude the eighteenth lecture on the gospel of Matthew. /Thank you.