

- T H E -
MESSIAH

GOSPEL
OF
MATTHEW



Matthew 25: End Times and Final Judgement

- **Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids (Matthew 25:1-13)**
- **Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)**
- **Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25:31-46)**

As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Daniel 7:13-14

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? When was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? When was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you? The king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:31-46

We have a _____ problem.

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

Isaiah 58:6-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Ephesians 2:8-10

Jesus said, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. A second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Matthew 22:37-40

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

The King will _____ all the nations of the world.

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What are we saved for?

To bring the Kingdom of God through faithful _____ in good works.

How then shall we live?

- _____: **Who is God leading me to serve?**
- _____: **Is my time, talent, and treasure serving "the least of these" members of Jesus' family?**
- _____: **Am I co-operating with others who are meeting needs in my community already?**

Until Jesus comes back, we have a _____ and we have work to do.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

In Matthew 25, Jesus foretells the End Times and Final Judgment through three parables: the Ten Bridesmaids, the Talents, and the Sheep and Goats.

Referring to Daniel's prophecy, Jesus describes his glorious return to judge all nations. When Jesus returns, He will separate the righteous from the unrighteous based on their actions of compassion that Paul emphasizes through his letter to Ephesians are the outcomes of our faith in God.

Isaiah and Micah, two prophets from Israel were inspired by God to call the nation of Israel to pursue justice, mercy, and humility. Paul, also inspired by God to write a letter to the Ephesians, emphasizes that our salvation is through grace and it is God's work. Because we are saved, we now live a life of good works.

Jesus summarized the law with love for God and neighbor. His teaching and life underscores the imperative for God's new humanity to serve the marginalized until his return.

TALK-IT-OVER:

How does the perception of Jesus being a judge differ between those who believe and don't believe in Jesus?

How do the parables in Matthew 25 challenge our understanding of the End Times?

How does the concept of salvation through grace, as outlined in Ephesians 2:8-10, intersect with the imperative to engage in acts of justice and mercy, as emphasized in Isaiah 58:6-10 and Micah 6:8?

What is one next step you need to take today?

Who do you need to tell about what you've learned?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

- Day 1) John 14:15-24
- Day 2) Matthew 7:21-23
- Day 3) Luke 13:22-27
- Day 4) John 15:5-12
- Day 5) Psalm 139:1-6
- Day 6) Romans 8:9-14