### Matthew

## Chapter 25

1‘For the Kingdom of the heavens is like ten virgins that took their lamps and went out to meet the groom and his bride. 2Five of them were wise, but [the other] five just didn’t care. 3For although they brought their lamps, they didn’t bring any oil, 4while the wise brought jars of oil for their lamps.  
  
 5‘Well, as the bridegroom was taking his time, they all nodded off and went to sleep. 6But in the middle of the night, someone shouted:  
  
 ‘Look, it’s the groom [and his bride]… Let’s go out and meet them!’  
  
 7‘So thereafter, all the [wise] virgins got up and started preparing their lamps.  
  
 8‘However, those who didn’t care then said to the wise:  
  
 ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are about to go out!’  
  
 9‘But the wise replied:  
  
 ‘There probably isn’t enough for us all, so you’d best go to the store to buy your own.’  
  
 10‘Well, the [bride and] groom happened to arrive just as these ones were leaving. So those who were ready entered the wedding banquet along with him… And then the door was closed.  
  
 11‘Well later on, the other virgins finally showed up and they shouted:  
  
 ‘Lord! Lord! Open to us!’  
  
 12‘But he said to them:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth: I don’t know you!’  
  
 13‘So, this is why you must stay awake… For you don’t know the date and time!  
  
 14‘It’s [the same] as when a man who was about to travel abroad called for his slaves to entrust his belongings to them.  
  
 15‘To one he gave five [silver] coins, to another he gave two, and to another he gave just one (each according to their abilities). And thereafter, he left on his trip.  
  
 16‘Well, the one who got the five went right out and put [his five coins] to work, gaining five more coins.  
  
 17‘The same was true of the slave who’d received two; he gained two more.  
  
 18‘But [the slave] that received just one went and dug a hole in the ground, where he buried his master’s silver.  
  
 19‘Then after some time, the master of those slaves [finally] returned and he called them in for an accounting.  
  
 20‘So the one who received the five coins came forward carrying the five more and said:  
  
 ‘Lord, you gave me five coins, and look… I’ve gained you five more!’  
  
 21‘And his master said:  
  
 ‘Well done, good and faithful slave! Since you’ve been faithful in a few things, I’ll appoint you over many… Enjoy the favor of your Lord!’  
  
 22‘Next, the one who received the two coins came forward and said to his master:  
  
 ‘Lord, you gave me two coins, and look… I’ve gained you two more!’  
  
 23‘So his master said to him:  
  
 ‘You’ve done well, my good and faithful slave! You were faithful over a few things, so I’ll appoint you over many… Share in the joy of your Lord!’  
  
 24‘Finally, the [slave] that was given the one coin came up to his master and said:  
  
 ‘Lord, I know that you’re a hard man who reaps where he doesn’t sow and harvests where he doesn’t plant. 25So because I was afraid, I hid your coin in the ground. Now see; I give you what’s yours!’  
  
 26‘In reply, his master then said to him:  
  
 ‘O you wicked and lazy slave!  
  
 ‘So you know that I reap where I don’t sow and I harvest where I don’t plant, do you? 27Then you should have deposited my silver with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received what’s mine with interest!  
  
 28‘So now; take the coin away from him and give it to the one who has 10 coins. 29Because, more will be given to those who have, and they’ll have plenty. But it’ll all be taken from those who don’t have.  
  
 30‘Now, throw this useless slave into the darkness outside, where he will weep and grind his teeth!’  
  
 31‘Likewise, this is what’s going to happen when the Son of Man arrives in his glory along with all of the messengers:  
  
 ‘He’s going to sit down on his glorious throne, 32and all nations will be led before him. Then he’ll separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.  
  
 33‘He will put the sheep on his right, but the goats on his left.  
  
 34‘And at that, the king will say to those on his right:  
  
 ‘Come, you who’ve been praised by my Father; inherit the Kingdom that has been prepared for you since the founding of the arrangement.  
  
 35‘For when I was hungry, you fed me.  
 When I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink.  
 When I was a stranger, you took me in.  
 36When I was naked, you clothed me.  
 When I was sick, you looked after me.  
 And when I was in prison, you came to me.’  
  
 37‘Then the righteous will ask:  
  
 ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or naked and clothe you? 39Yes, when did we see you sick or in prison and come to your [aid]?’  
  
 40‘And the king will say:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth: when you did it for the least of my brothers, you also did it for me.’  
  
 41‘Then he will say to those on his left:  
  
 ‘Leave me, you who’ve been cursed into the age-long fire that was prepared for the Opposer and his messengers!  
  
 42‘For when I was hungry, you didn’t feed me.  
 When I was thirsty, you gave me nothing to drink.  
 43When I was a stranger, you didn’t take me in.  
 When I was naked, you didn’t clothe me.  
 And when I was sick and in prison, you didn’t come to my aid.’  
  
 44‘Then they’ll also ask:  
  
 ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and not serve your needs?’  
  
 45‘And he will answer:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth; when you didn’t do it for one of these least ones, you didn’t do it for me.’  
  
 46‘Then these will go into an age-long lopping off, as the righteous go into age-long life.’