**The Parable of the Ten Virgins**

[Jesus said,]“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+25&version=ESV#fen-ESV-24006a)] and went to meet the bridegroom.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+25&version=ESV#fen-ESV-24006b)] **2**Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. **3**For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, **4**but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. **5**As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. **6**But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ **7**Then all those virgins rose 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, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ **10**And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. **11**Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ **12**But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ **13**Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

**THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, Chapter 25**