

The Left Behind Bride

(Matt. 25:1-13; 24:40-41; I Thess. 5:1-3)

Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father Who is in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name and driven out demons in Your name and done many mighty works in Your name? and then I will say to them openly, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who act wickedly (Matt. 7:21-23).

We live in a time of convenience and short cuts to everything. Computers are the master mind of things we used to do yesterday. The age of high tech has indeed handicapped the mind of men. We only have to know how to click or press a button for things to happen. The sad thing about it is not only that our brains have become lazy and shrinking, but it has affected the spiritual side of things too. We can only tolerate teachings that tickle our ears. It has to be convenient for us to follow in line with our life styles. Conviction is a thing of the past. "I am okay, you are okay." All our sins have been forgiven, no need to cry over them with repentance. The Word of God says that we must be born of the Spirit to be considered being born again. It is the only way that we can receive the image of God. His image is His Holy Spirit, Who is given at that time of our spiritual birth.

We may spend our life in church, teaching Sunday- School, preaching the Gospel, visiting the sick, we may never miss a day going to church, we may perform healing, prophesy, even casting demons out and still not being born again. We may impress the world with our look of humility and sacrificed life, but we can never impress God with all we do outside of Him. YAHSHUA said to a Pharisee, "You must be born again". He assured Nicodemus that unless a person is born again, he cannot ever see the kingdom God; unless a man is born of water and [even] the Spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of God. What is born of the flesh is flesh; what is born of the Spirit is spirit (John 3: 3,4-6). Born of the Spirit, is when the Holy Spirit of God indwells the person. His indwelling is the sign that we are born again. The results are seen in the way we think, act and behave. His indwelling is the Seal, also a guarantee of our inheritance, in anticipation of its full redemption and our acquiring possession of it (Ephesians 1: 13-14).

The Holy Spirit is called the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, our Teacher, our guide; He convicts and convinces us of sin. The believer who has the presence of the Holy Spirit is guided to be like He is in holiness, obedience, submission. When YAHSHUA answers, "I never knew you, depart from Me" to those who pretended to be His, is because they did not have His Seal- the indwelling of His Spirit. They never had a relationship with Him, with God. In Matthew 25 we see that a big number of those who call themselves the bride of Christ is left behind. There was no oil in their lamps. Their lives were dark in the knowledge of the word of God and there was no obedience and preparedness for His coming. They lived their lives as usual in the movement of the religion spirit; but God did not accept their work and treated them as wicked.

Works before relationship is not the way God will acknowledge what we do. Works without relationship with Him is pride and self-sufficiency. "I never knew you" means I did not have a relationship with you. Fake Christians will hear these words from Him surprised and in awe. But as was in the days of Noah, when life went along with its everyday routines, people not aware of what was to come until too late, so will be for those foolish bride, who are empty of God's Holy Spirit. YAHSHUA said, One will be taken, one will be left on that day when He comes for His bride. Paul told to the Thessalonians that when all seems peaceful, destruction will come upon those who do not have the Spirit of God. It will take them also by surprise. But we, believers, are not sons of darkness to be caught by surprise.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is like rain refreshing and restoring our soul (Joel 2:23-29; Isaiah 28: 11-12).

As a wind, He breathes into our spirit and gives life (Acts 2:3).

As oil He anoints us for service, worship (II Cor. 1: 21-22).

As fire He purifies us and establishes us in Him (Acts 2:3).

Many will be found unprepared and surprised at that day when He will come; but many will also be found ready and will be blessed on that day. Not knowing exactly when the day will be, it is imperative that our lamps should be filled with the Oil necessary to shine our way and to guide us to Him. Remember that the five virgins did not know where to go, for their lamps lacked the oil sufficient for the journey to meet the bridegroom. They were in darkness. It is a personal journey, not a collective one, otherwise those with enough oil would have shared

their light with those who were found without it. I have to reap the results of my actions; you will have to reap the results for yours. Acting like, pretending to be will not make us a believer. Our world might be deceived, but God will not. It is better to be found pleasing to God, than rejected by Him. The men of Noah's day had no way to be saved, for having rejected the message; the men of Sodom and Gomorra did not escape fire and brimstone poured over them in judgment for having rejected God. YAHSHUA said that only those who are found faithful to Him will be saved and will be blessed with deliverance and salvation; with honor and life eternal.

The parable of the ten virgins is a warning to the bride of Christ. He has warned us many times, as He does before sending judgment. Not long ago I heard His audible, but soft voice saying, "Read this every day in My Word" found in Matthew 24:37 -46. I know that He is at the door; He wants us to be found prepared. For these are the days of Noah, when He will be sure to return for us.

As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For just as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah went into the ark, and they did not know or understand until the flood came and swept them all away- so will be the coming of the Son of Man. At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left; two women will be grinding at the hand mill; one will be taken and one will be left. Watch therefore, for you do not know in what kind of a day your Lord is coming. But understand this: had the householder known in what watch the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have allowed his house to be undermined and broken into. You also must be ready therefore, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect Him (Matt. 24: 37-45).

THINK ABOUT IT!