

The Return of Christ, Part 6
Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon Series in *Matthew*

May 3, 2026

Letter A. The _____ (v.1a)

Letter B. The _____ (vv. 1b-5)

Lesson #1. Salvation is not proven by _____
_____, but by _____
_____.

Letter C. The _____ (vv. 6-12)

Lesson #2. Salvation cannot be _____ from
_____ ; it must be _____ by _____.

Letter D. The _____ (v. 13)

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Community Group Discussion Questions:

#1. Have you ever thought you were prepared for something, only to discover at the last moment that you were missing something essential? What happened, and what did it reveal?

#2. Read **Matthew 25:1-5**

Observe: What makes the "foolish" bridesmaids appear ready?

What reveals that they are actually unprepared?

Discuss: Why is outward association with Christ's people not the same thing as inward readiness before Christ?

(Shepherding Note: As you discuss this, examine your own heart before the Lord. The goal is not to become suspicious or judgmental toward others, but to let Jesus' warning hit us personally).

#3. Read **Matthew 7:21-23**

Observe: What similarities do you see between Jesus' words in Matthew 7 and the bridegroom's words in Matthew 25:12, "I do not know you"?

#4. Read **2 Corinthians 13:5**

Discuss: In light of the sermon, what does it mean to *"test yourselves to see if you are in the faith"*?

What evidences of genuine saving grace should believers look for in their own lives?

#5. What is the clearest difference between the foolish bridesmaids and the prudent bridesmaids?

How does that difference help you summarize the main warning Jesus gives in this parable?

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