



Daily Reflections

September 1, 2017

Scripture

Matthew 25: 1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"The Kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them,

but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry,

'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise,

'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

But the wise ones replied,

'No, for there may not be enough for us and you.

Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.'

While they went off to buy it,

the bridegroom came

and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.

Then the door was locked.

Afterwards the other virgins came and said,

'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!'
But he said in reply,
'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.'
Therefore, stay awake,
for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus used the parable of the Ten Virgins to illustrate for His disciples their responsibilities as stewards of His Kingdom here on earth. Some have complained that the problem would have been easily remedied had the five wise virgins shared their surplus oil with their foolish counterparts. That position, however, misunderstands Jesus' point. The five virgins are called wise because they are prudent. They took into account the possibility that the groom might be delayed and they prepared for that eventuality. The point for us? The bridegroom (Jesus) will come at the end of time as He promised. When? He did not say and it is not our's to know. The good servant (i.e. Wise Virgin) is vigilant and prepared. For those who are, the Lord's return will be an occasion of great joy.

Food for your Journey

I say luck is when an opportunity comes along and you're prepared for it.

--Denzel Washington.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You created me and placed me in this life to be Your humble servant. Help me, Lord, to discern Your will and to follow it faithfully as I go about my daily tasks. Amen.