

## Matthew 25:1-2

***“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.”***

The bible is clear that no one knows the day or the hour that Jesus is coming back for His bride, the Church. If you think you do, then you must be claiming to be God, because Jesus made it clear that even He (Jesus) did not know the day or the hour that He would return for His bride (The Church), only the Father (GOD) in heaven knows.

† **Matthew 24:36** ***“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.”***

So, unless you are God (Which you are NOT) don't even try to rack your brain trying to figure it out.

But let's "pretend" that we know when it will happen, or at least the year it will happen. Suppose it would not happen, say until the year 2085, a little over 60 years from now. I picked that day because back in 1986, Queen Elizabeth II went to Sydney Australia that year, and after she left, she wrote a letter to that city. And on the outside of the envelope she wrote, *“On a suitable day to be selected by you in the year 2085 AD, would you please open the envelope and convey to the citizens of Sydney my message to them.”* And to this day, the letter is still in its unopened envelope in a glass case waiting for the year 2085, and no one knows what the letter says. So, let's pretend that the letter needs to be read before Jesus will come back for His bride (Note the word PRETEND). Therefore, 60 years from now, I will be over 120 years old, close to 125, and I won't be here. Maybe you are in your early 20's or still a teenager, in 60 years you will be looking at 80 plus years old, and it is possible you may still be alive.

But if we think that we have 60 years we would think, *“I have plenty of time to give my life to Jesus”*, or most of you are believers and you would think, *“I have plenty of time to tell others about Jesus.”* So you would think that you could just kick back for 20, 30, 40 years before you give your life to Jesus, or before you really need to start beating the pavement and sharing Jesus with others. That kind of thinking are those who waited until the last minute to study for a test or are caught off guard when a “surprise test” comes along. Or you are like the five virgins in today's verse that did not prepare for the return of the bridegroom. It's those who think that they have time yet are not prepared for the return of Jesus to take us home to heaven.

The truth is, we don't have that much time. Every day we hear of people being killed in auto accidents or shootings happening, or heart attacks or.... We never know when our time is up, or when those we think we have time to share Jesus with time is up. Because it may not happen to us, but it doesn't mean it can't happen to them.

So are you prepared if Jesus were to come back as soon as you finished reading this devotional, or if He came back before you could even finish it? You may say yes you are, but like the ten virgins, five were ready because they were doing what they were told to do and were watching and waiting for the return of the bridegroom. But the other five, yet they too were virgins, were not prepared, and they missed out and got left behind.

Simply, if you say you are ready for Jesus return, yet you are living like the world is, are you really ready?

- † **Mark 13:35-37** *Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming--in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning--lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"*
- † **1 Corinthians 1:7-9 (NLT2)** *Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*
- † **Philippians 3:20-21 (NLT2)** *But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.*