

"The Time For The Procuring Of Oil Is Now"



As we return to our story we see that the ten virgins are stirring from their slumbers. The midnight drama is beginning to unfold. The shout of the bridegroom's friend has been heard off in the distance. The bridegroom is coming! The ten virgins are up. Their lamps

are burning low and about to go out. But the wise virgins are prepared for this. Excitedly they pour oil from their vessels to fill their lamps. Their lamps are shining brightly as they open the door and step out into the night. But for the five foolish virgins the story is different. In the light of their dim and flaring lamps the awful realization comes to them. They have no oil to refill their failing lamps. They must remain behind to find the oil. But the hour is late; too late in fact. This is an awful situation. They have heard the midnight cry. They know that He is near. Yet they are unable to go out to meet Him. This haunting parable of the ten virgins is packed with a very powerful message. It carries a profound and unforgettable warning for us all. Even today the oil of the Holy Spirit is available. The time for the procuring of oil is now.

"He Is Our Never-Ending Supply"



He is there with us in our dark times, filling our lamps with His supply as our spirits begin to fail us. He supplies the oil throughout all the 7 days of the week. Then He takes us on beyond into the 8th day and into the beginning of a new week. In Him we have an Eternal Supply that never ends. He is the One Who fills the lamps of our human spirits.

His provision is without end. In Him we shall never come to a place where our spirits burn out. And despite our trials and tribulations He gives us a song in the night. We shall never be cast away into outer darkness. Even when faced by physical death in the day of tribulation and adversity not one hair of our heads will be lost. Abiding in the Vine we shall never die. Our Savior is the God of this Providence. And He will provide the oil of His Spirit for His saints, come what may. He is there with us to cheer us on even as darkness falls and we face the coming night. This endurance in God is guaranteed by the infilling of the Holy Spirit. As we abide in Him we find ourselves being drawn ever closer into His Presence. Let us seek the infilling of His Holy Spirit with all diligence. Because our inspiration and our empowerment is not to be found in ourselves. Our Providence from God. It is divine, and a bountiful supply. And that precious and critical outside supply is only to be found in Him.

"The Parable Of The Ten Virgins Is Found In Matthew 25:1-13"



"Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no

oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, "Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the prudent, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the prudent answered, "No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. Later the other virgins also came, saying, "Lord, lord, open up for us." But he answered, "Truly I say to you, I do not know you." Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour."

"The Symbol Of The Lamp In Scripture"



The parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25 is one of the most mysterious and intriguing in all of scripture. It seems to be a story of great drama and romance. In it we also see a warning, and some information for the saints of great prophetic significance, It is also a wooing, and a calling into a devotion in God. The Spirit

of God is speaking to us in the storyline. We find ourselves being drawn beyond our comfort zone. **"Deep calls out unto deep"** (Psalm 42:7) As we look deeper into the story and survey the poetic imagery we observe that all of the ten virgins carried lamps. The lamp is often pictured in scripture and in our literature as a symbol of the spirit of a person. (Proverbs 20:27) **"The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, Searching all the inner depths of his heart."** (Proverbs 20:27) **"The spirit of a man is the candle of the Lord, Searching all the inward parts of the belly."** ("Inward parts of the belly" relates to our deepest feelings. It is a reference to the origin of our true thoughts and motivations.)

So the lamp, or candle, of the Lord is the spirit of man. There is a flame present and visible to others, - if he is alive and awake. The spirit of man at any given time is showcasing a spiritual presence. That spiritual presence varies from person to person and from time to time. Man was created to live and walk in God. He was created and saved not just for a mansion in heaven but to showcase the works and fruits of His Holy Spirit here on earth. The indwelling Holy Spirit of God manifests the Christian graces. They are, in fact, the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Our Apostle Paul lays them out for us in Galatians 5:22-23.

These aspects of Godly character are evidence of the indwelling Christ. And they are increasingly evident in a human being as he grows in God. The nine fruits of the Holy Spirit are, **Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness And Self-control.**

"Oil Represents The Holy Spirit"



In scripture the meaning of the oil is not a difficult matter to clarify. A quick word study through the Bible will suffice. The oil quite typically represents the Anointing of the Holy Spirit. The scriptures tell of the oil of gladness and the oil of anointing of God's Presence. The Old Testament scriptures

showcase the oil of anointing for priests and kings. Throughout the Bible we also see the oil for the lamps which brings the Light of God's illumination. Poetically the Word and Light of God is there as "A Lamp Unto Our Feet" to help guide us along the pathway when the hours of darkness come.

"Where Is This Supply Of Oil To Be Found?"

We serve and are ministered to by the God of Life. We were created and designed to run on the oil of His Holy Spirit. He is the One Who will lift us up out of this dark enclosure of flesh. He is the One Who is drawing us out to the eternal realms to be with Him. The Holy Bible is the Owner's manual for human beings. And our supply of life-giving oil comes by the infilling of God's Holy Spirit. Only He can supply this. Are we interested? And if so, then where is this supply of oil to be found? The five wise virgins found the oil. They purchased it from those who sold it. And where did the oil come from? Here our journey of discovery leads us to a most unlikely place. But it is an important and necessary waypoint on the Kings Highway. The oil is pressed at a place called Gethsemane. Right across from the eastern gate is the Mount of Olives. This is the grand entrance into the Holy City. It is the entrance Messiah took at His First Coming. And so it will be at His Second Coming when His feet

touch the Mount of Olives and the whole mountain cleaves in two. Down near the foot of the mount and right across from the Temple is the Garden of Gethsemane. This is the place. Gethsemane means "Oil Press". 'Geth means press and semane means oil, so pressed oil. It is right here that the oil is pressed out. It is a place of crushing. It is not a place for the popular crowds this was the place where our Lord Jesus Christ was handed the cup.



OIL PRESS
In Gethsemane



The Garden Of Gethsemane

There He knelt down and prayed, sweating as it were drops of blood. It was here that He endured the agony of surrender to the powers of darkness. In this dark night of the soul, He faced the prospect of the Cross and began to experience for the first time that personal agony that comes from being cut off from the Father. But He did this for us, and took upon Himself the sins of the whole world. The word "Christ" or "Messiah" means "The Anointed One". This was where Christ Jesus showed His true character and true Anointing. He gave Himself for others. He took the cup. He received it in total commitment to the Way of the Cross. It was there at Gethsemane

Thy Will Be Done



on the night of His betrayal that Jesus committed Himself to the will of the Father. His agony of soul is something we need never face. He was cut off from the Father so that we might be saved. He had to do this to take upon Himself the sins of the world. That is what He did for us. It was there, at that place of the oil press where the victory of Christ, our Anointed One, was won. Right there, at Gethsemane, is where it happened. There, at that place of the oil press, Jesus defeated the powers of darkness. And so it should come as no surprise that this is where the oil of anointing

for kings and priests, the oil for the lamps, and the oil of gladness can be found. Gethsemane was (and is) an awesome spiritual place. It is the place of "The Oil Press" and the place where the oil is found. For our Savior it was the place where He faced the full implications of the cup that was offered before Him. This is exceedingly important for us to understand. If we are in Christ then our enemy has been totally and utterly defeated. He was defeated right there in the Garden of Gethsemane. The indwelling Christ is at work within us. From Glory To Glory He is changing us from the inside out.