

Only the Father Knows

Matthew 24 – 25

by Don Falkos

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Jesus warned his disciples about the end of the age. "When you see 'the desolating abomination' being set up in the Temple, run for your lives. The world as you know it is coming to an end.

"In the midst of many horrors the Son of Man will come on the clouds with power and glory. All who believe in him, both Jews and Gentiles, will gather together from far and wide. But no one knows when this will happen; not the angels; not the Son; only the Father knows. The return of the Son of Man will happen suddenly, unexpectedly. So be on your guard like a servant who doesn't know when the master will come home.

The Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids preparing for the procession to the marriage banquet. Five of the bridesmaids were foolish; they hadn't brought any oil for their torches. When they went to buy some, the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the banquet, and the door was locked. When the five bridesmaids came back, asking to be let in, the bridegroom said, "I don't know you!" And they were left outside.

"Stay alert and watch.

A man gave his servants money to invest for him. Two of them earned well and were rewarded well. But one servant dug a hole and hid the money. He was thrown into the darkness outside, where there is weeping and bitter regret.

"When the Son of Man comes he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. Those on his left will be sent away to eternal punishment. But those on his right will inherit eternal life in the Kingdom prepared for them since the creation of the world."