

The Parables of Jesus

Lesson Six - Handout

I. Matthew 24:1-3

- a. The disciple's _____):
 - i. _____ will this happen?
 - ii. _____ will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?
- b. The Jesus's answers:
 - i. _____ of unknowns but 2 specific certainties:
 1. It is a reality and _____.
 2. _____ knows when.

II. Parable of the Ten Virgins

- a. The Story before the Story
 - i. The Wise and Foolish
 1. Similarities:
 - a. All _____
 - b. All _____ and came
 - c. All _____ for the return
 - d. All _____ about the return
 - e. All _____ asleep
 - f. All addressed the groom as _____.

b. Parable Lessons:

- i. The coming of Jesus cannot be _____.
- ii. Jesus will come without _____.
- iii. Being prepared is not _____.
- iv. Lost opportunities cannot be _____.
- v. Ultimately - If it is inevitable and unannounced, we MUST be _____.

III. Parable of the Sheep and Goats

a. Sheep and Goats

- i. Many do not consider this a parable.
- ii. This is not a matter of sheep=good and goats=bad.
 1. In the OT, sheep used to _____ Israel and not goats, but neither were rhinos.
 2. Merely a _____ as the basis for the separation.

iii. Areas of difficulties:

1. Who are the “all the nations”?
 - a. All _____
 - b. Just _____
 - c. Just _____
 - d. Just _____
 - i. For the continuity of the context, all humanity and/or just Christians both fit.
2. Who are the “least of these...”?
 - a. All _____
 - b. The _____ only
 - c. _____ only
 - i. See Micah 6:8; Matthew 10:40-42; Acts 9:5
 - ii. The Bible emphatically teaches care for the needy, but the idea of Christians probably fits the analogy better.
3. Does this parable advocate a “works righteousness”?
 - a. See Ephesians 2:8-10 and James 2:14-26
 - b. We are saved by faith and not by works, but the absence of good works brings into question the _____ of that faith.

b. Parable Lessons:

- i. His return will bring about a _____.
 1. For the “goats”, it will be devastating.
 - a. Virgins – left out
 - b. Talents – weeping and gnashing of teeth.
 - c. Goats – eternal punishment
- ii. Kingdom dwellers’ _____ of each other reflects their _____ to the King.
- iii. Ultimately – If it is inevitable and unannounced, we MUST remember that it _____ and severe.

IV. Parable of the Bags of Gold

a. Parable Lessons:

- i. The Kingdom is made up of people who have received a talent(s) from God.
 1. See 1 Corinthians 12:4-6
- ii. God looks for _____, not excuses.
- iii. Even though our “talents” may be different we all have the same _____.
 1. See 1 Peter 4:10-11
- iv. Ultimately – If it is inevitable and unannounced, we MUST make sure we use _____ the Holy Spirit has given us to make _____ are prepared for the permanently inevitable judgment to come.
 1. Are we _____ His Kingdom by ensuring others are ready for His return?