

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for January 31, 1988

Parable of the Ten Virgins
Matthew 25:1-13
Dale Whitehead

Introduction: A parable of warning given to highlight one specific truth. In **John 1:11** Jesus came to the nation of Israel and though they were warned they were not ready and did not receive Him.

1. Wedding: The most important social event in Israel required three steps.
 - A. The engagement: accomplished as an agreement between fathers.

B. The betrothal; a ceremony to join the two together at which time the two would commit to one another but they would be children, 13 or 14 years of age. They would return home with their parents and prepare for the next several years to receive their mate.

C. The actual wedding feast.
2. Bridesmaid: In the parable they are professed followers of Christ. Five were foolish and five were prudent. The preparation had been going on for sometime, years. They all looked the same yet one group was prepared and one group was not. They looked okay but they were not like the wheat and tares.
3. Bridegroom: Jesus is the bridegroom. The oil is the personal possession of salvation. This cannot be transferred to another.
4. Wedding Feast: And the door was shut! This seems harsh, they were expecting to enter and the door was shut. "I do not know you."