

The Wise and the Foolish Virgins

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins ..."
(Matt. 25:1-13).

How many of you, all perhaps, have read of the virgins? Some were wise and some were foolish. **"Virgin" means "purity." They were all good people, every one of them virgin, sanctified vessels of God. But those who had oil in their lamps went in. And the others were left out. They were all virgins, every one, people that you couldn't put your finger on for anything wrong. They everyone believed in the coming of the Lord. They were ready to go meet Him, but some of them let their oil go out.**

Don't let that be your case. Keep oil in your lamp. **Oil is the Spirit, the Holy Spirit.** Never let it drain from you. **When you feel your love dying away (Matt. 24:12), your sincerity to Christ, and to the cause, quickly go to Him Who has the Fountain of Oil and buy for yourself a filling of the Holy Spirit.** [1]

"What about in the rapture?" Well, **in the rapture time...** Jesus taught that as a parable. And He taught it many different ways. Here's one way. He said that there were ten virgins went out to meet the Lord. All of them were virgins, **but some had Oil in their lamps and some let the Oil go out.** Is that right? Now, what was the Oil? **The Oil was the Holy Spirit;** the Bible said so. [2] That's why we anoint the sick with oil, and oil symbolizes the Holy Spirit (*James 5:14*). [3] Now, look. They were virgins. Now, what does **virgin** mean? **"Holy, clean, separated, sanctified."** Is that right?

"These virgins, that they come and said, 'Give us of your oil.'" "The Bridegroom comes." The sound went out, **"Behold, the Bridegroom is coming. Go ye out to meet Him." And these virgins, who were virgins, holy, sanctified, holy, sanctified people without the baptism of the Holy Ghost, they said, "Give us Oil."** [2] But five were wise enough (**to have the wisdom of revelation**) to catch that Door, see, to be filled with the Spirit. [4]

And the Church (the wise virgins) said, "We just have enough for ourselves. **You go pray up then. But it's too late then.** So the Church went into the wedding, and the others were cast into outer darkness, where there was weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth; **and they went through the persecution, suffered, died (Matt. 22:11-13; 25:30).**" [2]

The Bride said, **"I just got enough for myself, just got enough.** You want, **you go pray it up."** [5] Now, remember, **the sleeping virgin come to call for oil.** It was all sealed out. She didn't get It. She never got It. [6] Don't you see the sleeping virgins now? Look at the Episcopalian, and Presbyterian,

Lutheran, and everything trying to... **And the trouble of it is, instead of trying to get the Holy Ghost, they're trying to speak in tongues.** And lot of them speak in tongues and are ashamed to come to this church to be prayed for--wants me to come to their house and pray for them. You call that the Holy Ghost? **That's speaking in tongues without the Holy Ghost.**

Now, I believe the Holy Ghost speaks in tongues. You know I believe that, but there's a counterfeit to it too. Yes, sir. The fruits of the Spirit what proves what it is (Eph. 5:8-10; Gal. 5:22-23). The fruits of a tree proves what kind of a tree it is, not the bark, the fruit (Luke 6:43-45). [5]

Do you realize that after the Bride is done gone, raptured to Heaven, churches will still go on, people think they're getting saved and everything just like they always did. Continue just like it was in the days of Noah. They went right ahead eating, drinking, and everything just like they always did. They didn't know it, **but the door was closed (Gen. 7).** And it could be, friends, that the door could close at anytime. Maybe already, for all I know. We don't know.

There just going to be a few of them go in. We know that "As it was in the days of Noah (eight souls were saved), so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man." There just be a few souls saved. I don't say eight. Might be eight hundred or... don't know how many. Eight thousand I don't know. Eight million...

But you see, the Bride is not going to be made up of just what little group is here on earth now. When the seventh watch, when He came, **all those virgins raised and trimmed their lamps.** All the way back, **every one that believed the anointed Word down through the age, come forth.** Now, the Bride will be made up of all those through the ages, that's believed and has accepted Christ as their Saviour. [6]

There were ten of them, you know, that went out, **and this here is only a symbol or a parable.** See, there were ten of them. 'Course, **there were more than ten; that was just made a number.**

That doesn't mean there's only going to be five, because they're sleeping all down through the ages. Each age has the virgins. [7]

Ten of them were virgins. **Five were wise that had Oil in their lamps, and the other five were just as pure and holy but they had no Oil.** They were sanctified, without the Holy Ghost.

But you can be justified without being sanctified. And you can be sanctified without having the Holy Ghost!

There's your five wise virgins who had Oil in their lamps, rapturing faith, believing all the signs, wonders, prophecies, and everything. And

these five cut out of the remnant were taken away. And the rest of them were still virgins and will not be lost, but will go through the tribulation period (*Mark. 16:16*). And they said, "Give us some of your Oil; we want the Holy Ghost now."

Now, these had the Holy Ghost; and these were sanctified. **These were sanctified plus the Holy Ghost, believing all the phenomenals and everything of God's power. Everything God spoke of here, they had it, believing it. These were taken out.**

And these said, "Give us, to us, now..."

Said, "We just got enough to get in with," **and away they went in the rapture.**

And it said, "**Go buy some from those who sell to you,**" they said. **And they went to try to pray through then, to receive the Holy Ghost, but the Gentile dispensation had been finished and the persecution rose.** But in the second resurrection they'll be the sheep that's separated from the goats, **but never the Bride, never the elect.** That's the remnant of the seed of the woman (*Rev. 12:17*). [8]

The rest was left for the tribulation period, weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth. That's the church, not the Bride, the church. The Bride went in. **There's a whole difference between the church and the Bride.** [9]

And now, we know there's three classes of people all the time. **There is the sinner, the ungodly, the sleeping virgin, and the true virgin.** Always. Now, we find out there was the **Sodomites, there was Lot, the lukewarm church, and here was Abraham had separated himself from them and was living apart.** Now, the very word "church" means "separation."

Israel was the people of God until they came into the wilderness, and being called out it was then the church of God. "Church" means "called out, set aside." **And Abraham was the elected Church. Lot was the sleeping virgin or the formal church.** And then there was the sinner, the Sodomite.

[10]

That Great Tribulation is that which is going to throw in there, is those people **that are the sleeping virgins that didn't have oil in their lamps; yet they belonged to an organization, good people, went to church, everything;** but they come for oil, but too late then. See, throw her into Great Tribulation, she'll go in that (*Rev. 6:12-17*). [11]

The wise virgin was already redeemed in the body (of the Lord) by His death, so there's no more suffering tribulation period for the Bride. See? **She goes in.**

But the Gentile church that just believe on Him and take the denominational creeds and so forth... [12]

Question: *After the Bride is raptured will any of the foolish virgin be saved or will they all be lost?*

No. See, everything will be finished for the Gentile church **when the Bride is taken from the earth** (*II Thess. 2:6-8*). The Spirit of God leaves the earth: *"He that's filthy is filthy still; he that's righteous is righteous still; he that's holy is holy still."* (*Rev. 22:11-12*). In other words the sanctuary becomes smoky, where the Attorney stands to plead the case. Christ leaves the sanctuary; His day of mediatorial is over. **The rapture comes**; He leaves from the sanctuary, goes forth and **takes the Book of Redemption, and claims everything He redeemed**. There's no more mediatorial work. How many understands that? **Christ comes forth to claim His mediatorial work**.

Now, just a minute. "Will the foolish virgin be saved." **No. Whatever happens now**. After that time she's in the state... Now, she will **have to go through the tribulation period**. And the reason of it is, **is because she has rejected the Atonement in Its fullness**. She is a believer, a professed believer, **but she will have to go through the tribulation period**. The Bible said, *"And the rest of them, the dragon spurted water out of his mouth to go and make war..."* And what an hour that is (*Rev. 12:13-18*). [13]

Now, during the Tribulation that will be, the sleeping virgin will be hunted down by the dragon, and spurts water from his mouth, which means, "multitudes and people," armies that will search down and take this woman, remnant of her seed, and will kill her. Now, that will be in the Tribulation Period.

But the Church will go Home. Now, if that would take place tomorrow, it wouldn't hinder us from just keeping on today. Let's make today count. [14]

See, the Gentile Bride is in heaven (during the 3 ½ years great Tribulation on earth), and the **sleeping virgin**, the Gentile virgin, is not to be saved during that time; **she's already been saved, but has been rejected in the Bride. And she only goes through the tribulation period for the time of purification, because she has rejected Christ, the Word, for her purification**. Then she has to suffer for her deeds, **but the Bride who has become the Word**, a complete atonement was made of Christ (*I John 2:1-2*), 'cause **He is the Word**. That body was rended, and when that body was rended, the Bride was in that body, because It's all the Word. Amen. [12]

But, you see, without the revelation, there's the sleeping virgin; here's the wise virgin.

This foolish virgin could not go in, where there was no Oil in the lamp; **they went back to pray up, to receive the Holy Ghost**. But, while they were gone, it was all over. The denominations say, "Well, maybe we've been

wrong. Maybe we better go back, seek for the baptism of the Holy Ghost." That's what they're trying to do now. Did you notice that? And, well, how close is His coming then, when they're going now to try to buy! Now, you get it? "While they went to buy," **they're trying to buy now, all the churches trying to have a revival, revival; it's trying to go back.** [4]

Half of them kept the Word, the wise virgin. The other one hybreed it; right back and forth, just as hard as it can go, right like that. It's been right down through the age. Hybreeding! [15]

The wise virgin had Oil in Her lamp, and She trimmed Her lamp and lit it. Now, what is it? **God is the Word. The Oil is the Spirit.** And the Fire is the Gospel Light on that Oil. God said so. See, that's the vessel. All right. The Oil is in the vessel. And the Fire, burning It, shows that It's reflecting the Light of what the Word said. See, that's the reflection. Now, that wise virgin could do that.

But that other, foolish virgin, was on the outside, had no Oil, and they couldn't reflect nothing but just their church and their denomination. [16]

The foolish virgin and the wise virgin were not heirs together. The foolish virgin, she was a virgin, just lacking Oil. But when she come to buy Oil, it was at that time that the Bridegroom came. And she was left out, while she was trying to buy Oil. Do you understand? Now, **neither can the Spiritual and the natural be heirs together** (*Gal. 4:21-31*).

That's why the Rapture, the Bride, the wise virgin, the called-out, the foreordained, the elected! **God knew, before the foundation of the world, who would be saved and who would not be saved.** By predestination, by foreknowledge, He saw every member, put every name on the Lamb's Book of Life, before the Church ever began. **Jesus come to seek and save that which were on that Book** (*Rev. 5:1-10*). He bought the Book of Redemption. It was lost, **and He redeemed us**, and all names were on that Book was redeemed when He redeemed us (*Rev. 13:8*). [17]

Now, we find out also in this that the Sixth Seal now being opened, it was for a threefold purpose (*Rev. 6:12-17*). Now, here were the purposes: **The first thing was that the sleeping virgins had to go through the tribulation period for purification. She had to be purged of her sins of unbelief and rejecting the message. This she was done in the tribulation period.** We see they wind up over here in Revelations 7:13-17, between the 6th and 7th chapter here, that she had been purged, and she'd been given her robes.

Now, **she's not the Bride, but it's the church, the pure people that didn't have the opportunity, maybe, to receive the message, or in some**

way that they were blinded by these false prophets, and they didn't get a chance, and yet they're really sincere in heart, and God knows their heart, and here they're purged during this time.

You notice that another purging time; **that's for Israel** when she gathers. That's the second fold. **God purges Israel in the tribulation period.** Out of the millions that'll gather there, there'll be a selected one hundred and forty-four thousand, **and they will be purged also** (*Rev. 7:1-8; Daniel 12:1-3*). **God's purging Israel.**

Notice, **there is a whole earth is to be purged** (*Rev. 6:12-17*). There will be such a thing that the moon, stars, and all nature will be purged (*Matt. 24:29-31*). You see what it is? **The earth is renewing herself, being purged, getting ready for the Millennium.** The millennium's coming up. And see, **everything that's got any filth in it is to be purged during the Sixth Seal.**

[18]

We're at the homeland. **The Jews are in a homeland. We're at the end of the age, ready for the rapture. The rapture comes; the church goes up; we're caught up to meet Him in the air** (*I Thess. 4:13-17*). We all know that. The Stone that was cut out of the mountain is ready to come at any time (*Daniel 2:31-45*). And when It comes, what does It do? **It does away with the Gentile age.** It's all over, and God completely quits dealing with them. "Let him that's filthy be filthy still; let him that's holy be holy still." (*Rev. 22:11-12*). See? What does He do then? **He takes His church, the Holy Ghost filled.**

What's the filthy? That's the sleeping virgin and them that comes up for judgment way over in here where she comes up **to the white throne of judgment and has to be judged by the redeemed** (*Rev. 20:11-15; I Cor. 6:1-4*). Paul told us not to take a matter to court, because the saints would judge the earth. That's right. We're at the end time, sure. [19]

Question: *What happens to the people that are considered the sleeping virgin when they are judged at the judgment?*

Well, the sleeping virgin will be saved of course. **She'll be saved at the judgment. She'll never be the Bride, but she is a saved group of people that will come in the judgment, that will not be included in the Bride.** But as long as they are virgins, they are before God. See? They are to be saved. He separates... **They'll be the sheep on His right side. And the unsaved will be the goats on His left at the great white throne judgment** (*Matt. 25:31-46*).

[20]

Who did Daniel see coming with tens of thousands times ten thousands? **The Saints** (*Daniel 7:9-11*). The Books were opened, sinners. Another Book

was opened, **which was the Book of Life, the sleeping virgin** (*Rev. 20:11-15*). Oh, my, can't they see that? The sleeping church, them that went out to meet the Bridegroom, they let the Oil go out of their lamp; never entered into This, **never let Christ take control** so He could work miracles and speak with tongues and do wonders and things **to prove that He lived in His Church.** [21]

Now, but the true Bride will be made up of thousands times thousands of people, but it will be that Elect out of every church age. **Every time a message went forth, and the people believed it and accepted it in all the Light it was, when they were sealed away until that Day of Redemption** (*Eph. 4:30; Eph. 1:13*).

See, now, that's the Elect. And when the sound come, "The Bridegroom cometh," then every one of those that slept down through those ages, awakened, every one. See, it isn't God, as we would think, just going to hunt Him out a few thousand people of this age and take them. **It's the very Elected out of every age. And that's the reason Christ has to stay on the mediatorial seat back here, as an Intercessor, until that last one comes in at the last age.** And these revelations then, of what it has been, breaks forth upon the people, and they see what's happened.

Notice, "The rest of the dead," church members, "lived not again until one thousand years was passed." (*Rev. 20:5*). The church members, the Christians, the church, lived not again until the end of the thousand years. And then they come forth **to stand before the Bride**, that's right, stand before the King and the Queen. Glory! [22]

Question: *Were the five (foolish) of the virgins lost?*

You find out there that those **five foolish virgins were not lost; but they were not permitted to go into the wedding supper, but they suffered persecution, and were martyred, and raised again at the general resurrection in the last day** (*Rev. 20:5*). Those are the people where He separated the sheep from the goats; they stood before judgment (*Matt. 25:31-40*).

You say, "Well, Brother Branham, don't we stand, the Church?"

No, sir. We do not stand before the judgment. **We are now standing before the Judgment.** God put our sins upon Christ. *"He that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me has Eternal Life, and shall not come into the judgment but has passed from death unto Life"* (*John 5:24*). No more judgment for the Church, **it's taken up in the rapture, and comes back to pass judgment upon the people who did not receive the Holy Spirit.** Does not Paul say that he dares any of us to take a matter to the court, to the unjust magistrate, when, "know ye not that the saints shall judge the earth?" (*I Cor. 6:1-2*). **We will set with Christ and judge kings and priests** (*Rev. 1:4-6*),

and judge these people that we preached to and told them about the baptism of the Holy Ghost and they refused to receive It. Think of it.

No, **they were not lost, but they will never be in the Bride.** They were come in the second resurrection, but never be in the Bride, **to be judged according to the way they treated the Light that they received.** Now, that part will be up to Christ. They were not lost though. [23]

Another question: *The church age ending and has blacked out, the Bride is called, we have already entered into the tribulation period?*

No, no, no, I wished that I could just have more time on that. See? **The Bride, when she's taken from the church, then the church age will cease. Laodicea goes into chaos; the Bride goes to glory; and the tribulation period sets in upon the sleeping virgin for three and a half years while Israel is getting its prophecy; then tribulation sets in upon Israel; and then comes the battle of Armageddon which destroys all things.** And then, the Bride returns back with the Groom for a thousand years, the Millennium reign (*Rev. 20:4-6*); after that comes the white throne judgment; after that comes the new heavens and new earth and the new city coming down from God out of heaven. **Eternity and time blends together.** [24]

Reference:

- [1] "The Sudden, Secret Going Away of the Church" (58-1012), par. 35
- [2] "Questions & Answers" (54-0103E), par. 69, 75-76
- [3] "The Philadelphian Church Age" (60-1210), par. 232
- [4] "The Ten Virgin & The 144.000 Jews" (60-1211M), par. 155, 169, 173
- [5] "The Sixth Seal" (63-0323), par. 407-413
- [6] "Who Do You Say This Is?" (64-1227), par. 115-117
- [7] "Questions & Answers on the Seals" (63-0324M), par. 42-46, 62
- [8] "Questions & Answers on Genesis" (53-0729), par. 256-267
- [9] "The Breach" (63-0317E), par. 262
- [10] "Abraham" (61-0211), par. 42
- [11] "The Thyatirean Church Age" (60-1208), par. 119
- [12] "Questions & Answers" (64-0823M), par. 151-152
- [13] "Questions & Answers" (64-0823E), Q-No. 306, par. 173-174
- [14] "Taking Sides With Jesus" (62-0601), par. 57
- [15] "The Spoken Word Is The Original Seed" (62-0318), par. 116
- [16] "The Conflict Between God and Satan" (62-0531), par. 221-222
- [17] "The Seed Shall Not Be Heir With The Shuck" (65-0429B), par. 46-47
- [18] "The Seventh Seal" (63-0324E), par. 387-390
- [19] "The Seventieth Week of Daniel" (61-0806), par. 163-164
- [20] "Questions & Answers" (61-1015M), Q-No. 164, par. 189
- [21] "Revelation Chapter 4 Part 2" (61-0101), par. 281
- [22] "The First Seal" (63-0318), par. 100-106
- [23] "God Being Misunderstood" (61-0723E), Q-No. 140, par. 56-59
- [24] "Questions & Answers" (64-0830E), Q-No. 392, par. 75

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www.biblebelievers.de, Fax: (+49) 72 35 33 06

There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.

[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]