

Studies in the Life of Christ

N.T. Survey Lesson 44--Matthew 25

Introduction: Though Matthew twenty-four deals with the coming of the Lord in judgment on Jerusalem, it is clear that the Lord's judgment on Jerusalem anticipates His final coming in judgment on all the wicked. This point Jesus explicitly mentions in Matthew 25:31. The parables in the last part of chapter twenty-four could apply with equal force to either the destruction of Jerusalem or the end of the world. Those who prepared themselves to be saved from the former were also prepared for the latter (Compare Luke 21:34-36). Matthew 25, it seems, centers around the final judgment.

Lesson aim: To emphasize the need to be prepared for the Lord's coming.

The parable of the ten virgins--Matthew 25:1-13

1. What were the virgins of this parable going out to do?
2. What distinguished the wise from the foolish?
3. What happened while the foolish virgins went to find oil for their lamps?
4. What is the message of this parable?

The parable of the talents--Matthew 25:14-30

1. What did the man give to each of his slaves before going on a journey?
2. What did each one do with money given him?
3. What did the master say to each of those who had used their money well?
4. What did he say to the one who had buried the talent given to him?
5. What principle of rewards is set forth in this parable?
6. What is the message to disciples who live in anticipation of the Lord's return?

A Glimpse at the final judgment--Matthew 25:31-46

1. What will Jesus do when he comes again?
2. What will he say to those on the right hand?
3. What will he say to those on the left hand?
4. Why will the lost be lost?
5. Why will the saved be saved?
6. Are the destinies of the saved and the lost of the same duration?