

## Sermon Outline

“Being Watchful”

Matthew 25:1-13

### I. Three parables concerning preparation

The house servants 24:42-51

The 10 virgins 25:1-13

The trusted servants 25:14-30

#### Connections in Matthew

3 parables introduced, “the kingdom is like”

13:24; 18:23; 22:2

Those who hear Jesus “shall be like”

7:24-26 (*cf.* wise, foolish: 7:24, 26; 24:45)

### II. The setting of the parable vv. 1-2

A bridegroom coming to his wedding (is the true Temple in view?)

Ten virgins assigned to greet and accompany him w/ torches

The group divided between wise and foolish

### III. The parable proper vv. 3-12

All are sleeping during the delay, but some are prepared vv. 3-5

The call to action comes, waiting is over v. 6

Preparing the torches to be lit v. 7

A problem confronts the foolish v. 8

The wise remember their purpose v. 9

Those who were prepared enter the feast with the groom v. 10

The unprepared request of the groom to let them join v. 11

The groom denies them recognition v. 12 (*cf.* 7:23)

### IV. Jesus’ concluding warning v. 13

“Watch” means to be prepared, to have one’s equipment in order.

We are to be shepherds of what we have been given.

All three parables teach this regarding the coming of Christ in judgment against the temple and the old order (Ch 24).

How much more shall we be accountable, who live in a time characterized by Christ’s manifest presence on His throne?