

**Part 2 – The Book of Philemon**

**Philemon 1:4-16**

**Preparation-Obedience then Forgiveness**

**Matthew 25:1-13** 1 **“Then the kingdom of heaven** will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

**31** But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

**32 All the nations** will be gathered before Him; and **He will** separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

**33** and **He will** put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

**34** “Then the King **will say** to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, **inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.**

**Matthew 25:2** Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.

3 For when **the foolish** took their lamps, **they took no oil with them,**

4 **BUT** the prudent **took oil in flasks along with their lamps.**

5 Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep.

“Sleep” is a figure of speech, a euphemism - a metaphor for death.

**Daniel 12:2** Many of those who **sleep in the dust of the ground will awake,** these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

**John 11:11-14** This He said, and after that He \*said to them, “Our friend Lazarus **has fallen asleep; but I go, so that I may awaken him out of sleep.**”

12 The disciples then said to Him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.”

13 **Now Jesus had spoken of his death**, but they thought that He was speaking of literal sleep. 14 So Jesus then said to them plainly, "**Lazarus is dead,**

**Matthew 25: 6 But at midnight** there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

7 Then **all those virgins rose** and trimmed their lamps.

8 The foolish said to the prudent,

8b 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

9 **But the prudent answered, 'No,** there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

10 **And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came,** and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; **and the door was shut.**

11 **Later the other virgins also came,** saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.'

12 But he answered, **'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'**

13 **Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.**

Now that is a shocking verse 12, don't you think? Because they were waiting for The Lord to return, but because they lacked the appropriate preparation, HE SAID, "I do not know you".

**Matthew 6:6-15** But **you**, when **you** pray, go into **your** inner room, close **your** door and pray to **your** Father who is in secret, and **your** Father who sees what is done in secret will reward **you**.

7 "And when **you** are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. 8 So do not be like them; for **your** Father knows what **you** need before **you** ask Him.

9 **"Pray, then, in this way:** 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

10 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

11 'Give us this day our daily bread.

12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.']

14 **For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.**

15 **BUT if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.**

**Philemon 1:4** I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,  
5 **because** I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints;

6 and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ's sake.

7 For I have come to have **much joy and comfort in your love, because** the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

8 **Therefore**, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you to do what is proper,

9 yet for love's sake **I rather appeal to you**—since I am such a person as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—

10 **I appeal to you for my child** Onesimus, **whom I have begotten** in my imprisonment,

11 who formerly was useless to you, but now is useful both to you and to me.

12 I have sent him back to you in person, that is, sending my very heart,

13 whom I wished to keep with me, so that on your behalf he might minister to me in my imprisonment for the gospel;

14 but without your consent I did not want to do anything, so that your goodness would not be, in effect, by compulsion but of your own free will.

15 For perhaps he was for this reason separated from you for a while, that you would have him back forever,

16 no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.