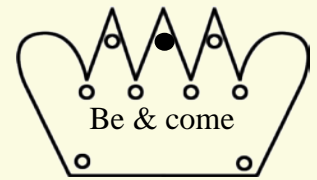


Truly Great When Christ Comes Again

5.9 Prepared for Christ's Coming



Bible Verse: John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Proclaim: *God has a crown for the one who longs for the Lord's appearing.*

Truth: Those who endure temptations and are prepared for the Lord's coming return are blessed indeed. They shall obtain the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.



Scripture Reference: **Matthew 25: 1-13; Rev 22:6-21**

- Lesson: (1) To know the Lord's soon coming** – *The bible has many predictions of the Lord Jesus' soon return. The bible reveals:* "But about that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark.." *God has said:* "Keep watch ! For at an hour when man do not expect, He will come. In a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet." *To cry out in repentance then would be too late! Man tends to think "there is tomorrow"; "no need to do now." Thus we should always keep watch and know that the Lord will soon return. (Matthew 24: 36-42, 1Cor 15:50-52)*
- (2) To be set apart for holiness** – *The five virgins who had sufficient oil in their lamps were wise. They had made preparations according to the Bride groom's wishes. When he was delayed in coming, they took the initiative to prepare more oil. The other five virgins, however, were foolish. They did not pay heed to their master but instead did as they pleased. As a result, the bridegroom rejected them, saying : "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you." For God has said : to be carnally-minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. We must be like the wise virgins, who set themselves apart for holiness and were ready for the bridegroom's coming. (Matthew 25:11-13)*
- (3) To be kind to one another** – *The Lord Jesus is coming back to receive His church. It will be a holy, radiant church with love and unity. Therefore, the Lord requires us to be humble and gentle, having kindness and forgiveness toward each other. God is love . When we encourage and affirm one another, we shall be living according to God's Spirit indeed. (Ephesians 4:2, 32 ; 1 John 4:16)*
- (4) To be good witnesses for the Lord** – *At His appearing, "the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And hence we shall always be with the Lord. "* *What a glorious but fearsome Day! According to the bible : All knees shall bow, and all mouths shall confess the Lord. Each one shall have to give an account of himself before God. Hence, we must be good witnesses of the Lord so that others may know the truth and can also be prepared. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 ; John 8:32 ; Romans 14:11-12)*

Conclusion: The Bible recorded that Christ Jesus ascended to heaven from Jerusalem after His resurrection. On His return, the Lord will descend to this world in the same way. According to the Bible, the Lord will come like a thief in the night. However, we who believe have the light and will be His witnesses. God has promised an everlasting crown to the one who loves Him and longs for His coming again. (Acts 1:9-11).

<u>You Will Need:</u>	A BIBLE; VISUAL AIDS - Lesson Title and Memory Verse. An Oil Lamp & some oil (or Picture of these)
BIBLE STORY NARRATION SHOW & TELL	Matthew 25: 1-13 The Parable of the Ten Virgins Show the lamp & oil picture 1. Five of the virgins were foolish and unprepared 2. The wise virgins were ready and had lit lamps 3. The foolish virgins were turned away by the Bridegroom for doing their own things; the wise virgins were rewarded for their careful attention & obedience to the Bridegroom's instructions
PRAY	Pray that we may live as faithful witnesses for Jesus and lead many people to Him.