

# *Check Your Oil*

## *The Importance of Readiness*

**Scripture:** Matthew 25:1-13 (Parable of the Ten Virgins)

*"Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their*

*lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were wise, and five*

*were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps but did not take oil*

*with them. But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps."*

### **Sermon:**

Jesus tells us a story about ten young women waiting for a bridegroom. Five were wise, bringing extra oil for their lamps, and five were foolish, thinking the moment would come soon enough without preparation. When the bridegroom arrived, the wise were ready, and the foolish were left scrambling, unable to join the celebration.

This parable teaches us the importance of being prepared spiritually—our “lamps” represent our faith, and the “oil” is the Holy Spirit sustaining us. Life is unpredictable, and Christ’s return is uncertain. We must keep our spiritual lamps filled and ready.

### **Story Illustration:**

Imagine your car’s oil. If you ignore it, eventually your engine will seize, your car won’t run, and you’ll be stranded. The foolish virgins were like drivers ignoring their oil—thinking they had time, believing nothing bad would happen. The wise virgins were like careful drivers who check and refill their oil regularly, ensuring their car is ready to go at a moment’s notice. Just as you wouldn’t risk your car by running low on oil, don’t risk your soul by neglecting your spiritual readiness. Regular prayer, scripture, and fellowship are your “oil checks”—they keep your faith alive and your lamp burning.

### **Parallel Points:**

1. **Check your oil regularly:** Just as your car needs oil to run smoothly,

your soul needs the Holy Spirit to thrive.

2. **Don't wait until the last minute:** You can't fill your spiritual lamp in a panic; preparation must be ongoing.

3. **Being wise pays off:** The wise virgins entered the feast, and those ready in faith will be with Christ at His return.

### **Conclusion:**

Keep your lamp full, your faith active, and your spirit nourished. Don't wait until it's too late. God's return could be tomorrow, and when He comes, make sure you're ready to enter the feast. Just like a car needs oil, your soul needs God's Spirit to keep burning brightly.

*"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."* –

Matthew  
25:13