

## Always Alert Always Ready

**Main Bible Verse:**

Matthew 25:1-13

**Summary:**

1. Psalms 121 clearly tells us, where does our help come from, our help comes from the Lord.
  - In year 2020, because of the pandemic, everyone kept distance from each other, and lived cautiously. But do not let it be the reason we become distant from God for it will put ourselves in even worse situation.
  - What are the things that will make us distant from the Lord? Sin, flesh, and our own desire.
  - The Lord will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. We must have a wonderful relationship with God.
2. (Matthew 25:1-13) Jesus will come again, and He reminded all of us to be constantly ready.
  - “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. Jesus is trying to remind us of three things in these scriptures:
    - A. Do not be last minute
      - a. The wisest part of the wise virgins is that they know the oil could not be borrowed. That was why they told the foolish virgins to go buy for themselves.
      - b. Opportunities are for those who are ready. The same as the kingdom of Heaven. Do not wait until we run into problems to start praying. We must learn to devote our times to God and to rely on Him daily.
      - c. God promised us that He will keep us from all harm; He will watch over our life; He will watch over our coming and going both now and forever. But we must first learn to rely on him and get closer to Him in our daily lives.
    - B. We must pay
      - a. (Matthew 25:8-9) The wise told the foolish, they must go to those who sell oil and buy some for themselves.
      - b. (Revelation 3:15-18) Our relationship with God could not be borrowed. We cannot be neither cold or hot. We must all build up an intimate relationship with God.
      - c. (Philippians 3:12-14) That is why Paul taught us to press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
      - d. (Matthew 11:12) Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. It is the same to all of us. But the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing and forceful people are seizing it. “From the time of John the Baptizer until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful people have been seizing it.”
      - e. (Galatians 4:19) My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you, (Matthew 25:10) “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.
    - C. God is waiting
      - a. (Matthew 24:32-33) “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. (Matthew 24:3-8) As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such

things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.

b. Jesus is waiting for us to be ready. We must have the lamp and the oil.

c. (Psalms 119:105) Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

3. Jesus taught us what is lamp. Lamp is God's word.

- (John 6:27) Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."
- (John 6:48) I am the bread of life.

4. The key to overcome temptation is God's word.

- (Matthew 4:3-4) The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

5. (John 6:14-15) After the miracle of five loafs of bread and two fish, Jesus withdrew to the mountains. Because He knew people has come for the earthly food that could spoil instead of the eternal life.

6. (1 John 2:15-16) Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

7. (John 4:33-34) Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.

8. Oil is the Holy Spirit. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we will be empowered to depart from the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life, and to act according to the will of God. We then will be able to become a wonderful witness of God.

- (Acts 1:8) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

9. When we have the oil, the Holy Spirit, we will be empowered to obey God's word.

10. We must daily read the bible, pray, worship and praise, and call out to God and ask the Holy Spirit to fill us.

11. Whenever we are weary, afraid, complaining, and worrying...etc, we must lift up our hands to pray and to praise God until the Holy Spirit is upon us, then we will be set free.

12. (Matthew 25:6) "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

- Let us be the one with lamp and oil, and also the one who cries out at midnight when Jesus comes again.

**Conclusion:**

• (Matthew 25:13) "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

• (Ephesians 6:18) And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.