

Full Sermon Transcript:
Bridesmaids or Bride in Matthew 25
November 29, 2025

Disclaimer: This transcript is computer-generated and may have mistakes or inaccuracies. Though for the most part, the software does a really good job.

Good to see everyone. I'm going to blow the shofar, give it a try. And then I will explain why. Praise Jesus.

Let's go in prayer.

Lord Heavenly Father, in Jesus name, thank you for getting us through this week.

Thank you for getting us through these last few minutes, these last few hours, through last night, through today thus far.

Thank you for getting us through tomorrow, this year, next year, and the next, and the next.

Thank you that your faithfulness does not end, that when we are weak, you are strong.

Praise your holy name. Father, I pray for your special help in this sermon, in the delivery of your message.

In the delivery of your messages, your word, your truth, and the holy scriptures.

Thank you, Father, for what you've already done, for what you're doing, and for what you're about to do.

For you're the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End, and the Present.

You are what holds all things together, and your purpose will be accomplished here on this earth and throughout the entire universe.

Your will will be accomplished. We accept your help. We accept your presence. We accept your voice in this service and forevermore.

And the Church says, Amen. You may be seated. Let's turn to Matthew 25. I will get the camera on here.

There we go. We're going to start in Matthew chapter 25 today.

But before we get started in reading Matthew 25, and before we get started with the actual sermon, the actual message and teaching today, I will explain that I blew the shofar, even though it's not the New Moon, it's not one of the annual holy days.

But the shofar, the blowing of the horn, is sometimes for war, and we are in a war.

Some of you know that I was attacked today by a person that claims to be part of my family, but is not, and never was, and never will be.

And it's spiritual warfare that would come, of course, before the live worship services to try to throw me off track.

And I confess that I was very downtrodden, but when I entered the sanctuary and heard the song of signs and wonders, song number 48, which gives part of my testimony, which is a testimony of the things that I have seen God do, is a testimony about God, not about myself, but about his mercy, his grace, his authority, his works in this earth, things that I have seen him do in my life and in this ministry.

And I knew immediately that that was God bringing me comfort and strength. And I praise him for it, because mankind will always and forever fail you.

They always will, and that will never change. You will never be able to depend on any human being, but God will not let you down.

He may not answer every prayer, heal you every time, but he will get you through the storm.

And he is there, and he is present, and he is the definition of love. And he will not ignore you, but he will be present in the storm.

And he will deliver comfort and strength to you to get you through that storm. The storm may not vanish immediately, and he did not block it from coming, even when he saw it coming in advance.

But he'll give you the comfort and the strength to get through it. He is a friend, as the Bible says, a friend closer than a brother.

He is our great comforter, our shield and our buckler, our foundation and our roof.

He is our tabernacle. He is our strength. He is our shepherd, in which is sufficient and have need of nothing else than to hear his voice and to see the movement of his hand, to feel his breath upon mine, to know that he is my lover, the bridegroom, the lover of my soul, my kinsman-redeemer.

I shall not be forsaken. I shall not be an orphan. I shall not be an unworn orphan. But he saw me before I was born, and called me by name, and lifted me up out of Hades many times, and transformed me from darkness to his glorious light,

and entrusted me with a high calling, and left others behind to come and save me and deliver me.

And he has forsaken the rich and the powerful and the foolish, and brought them down low and exalted the lowly, the poor and the black sheep, the outcast.

This is the ways of the Lord. Glory be to his name. In the name of Jesus we glorify. In the name of Jesus we march on, we march forward.

Into the valley of the shadow of death boldly we shout and proclaim, Behold the bridegroom, come out to meet him. Amen.

Praise the name of Jesus, yesterday, today, and tomorrow, and forever without end. Amen.

In Matthew 25 verse 1, Then the kingdom of heaven would be comparable to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Ten virgins. We know the five of them turned out to be wise, but the other five are foolish, and the Greek word is the same word that we use today in English, moron.

Five morons, idiots. Amen. You'd have to be an idiot to be called to the marriage supper and not be ready. Amen.

To not be properly dressed for the marriage supper, to not be ready for the marriage supper, even though you knew in advance when it was going to occur, even though the alarm did sound repeatedly and you kept hitting the snooze button. Amen.

Not enough urgency, complacency. You'd have to be a moron, an idiot, a fool, to not eventually enter into the kingdom.

As God did tell me what was it a year or two ago that you would have to be stupid.

That's what God said in order to not make it in. You'd have to be pretty evil, wicked, to not make it in.

Eventually, gave him two resurrections, gave him the second life, a hundred years. Amen.

But what I'm going to talk about now is this. The ten virgins, you know I've always taught that is the bride of Christ, or the people that have the potential to become the bride of Christ.

Five of them do, five of them don't. But guess what? A lot of preachers and so-called Christians, instead of saying this is the bride of Christ, they say that these virgins are the bridesmaids.

That these are people in attendance or assisting the bride or assisting the bridegroom, but are not actually the bride, but yet they're still the church.

They say yes, this is a parable, a symbolism for the church. Yes, these virgins represent the church, but it doesn't represent the bride.

But rather the bridesmaids or other attendants, but not the bride, but still the church.

How stupid is that? How idiotic moron to say that this is representative of the church, but not the bride.

That's pretty stupid to be honest, because you can read throughout scripture in Corinthians and Ephesians and other places, where the church is definitely the bride, not the bridesmaids.

The church is the bride of Christ. Never, ever, ever does the Bible describe the church as the bridesmaids.

Is our goal to be the bridesmaids, or is our goal to become the bride? Which is it?

It's one or the other. You can't be both. Can a woman be both the bridesmaid and the bride, both at the same time? It can't have it both ways.

It's one way or another. Amen. But this is their way of avoiding the polygamy. Amen.

In order to not confess and admit that Jesus is using an analogy of polygamy for himself in the New Testament, in the New Covenant end-of-time timeframe context, the only way they can avoid that is to do away with the bride symbolism and try to claim that it's other people other than the bride.

They have to do that trick in order to not admit that there is polygamy in the end-time New Covenant generation, and Jesus used such a polygamous parable to describe himself.

It's what they have to do in order to not teach correct doctrine. Amen.

I went to Perplexity AI, artificial intelligence, and at first, when I inquired about this Bible verse and what people teach about it, at first it repeatedly, over and over, stuck to the teaching that these are the bridesmaids, not the bride.

But I said to Perplexity AI, I said, Isn't it true that the virgins represent the church?

And isn't it true that the church is the bride? It is not possible for them to be the bridesmaid and the bride at the same time.

They're one or the other. The scriptures are clear that the church is the bride. If the virgins represent the church, then they are the bride. I don't care what many scholars or pastors believe or teach.

I only care about what is scripturally accurate and what I have said is the only thing that makes sense.

They can't be both the bridesmaid and the bride at the same time. That's what I said.

And here was its response. Its response was this. You are correct that scripturally, The church is clearly identified as the bride of Christ.

This is affirmed in multiple New Testament passages, such as 2 Corinthians 11, verse 2, Ephesians 5, verses 25, 26, 27, and Revelation 19, verse 7, 8 and 9, which portray the church collectively as the bride engaged and joined to Christ in a covenant marriage union.

The bridal imagery emphasizes the intimate sacrificial relationship between Christ and the church and looks forward to their ultimate union at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Given this biblical reality, if the virgins in Matthew 25 represent the church as a whole, they would indeed correspond to the bride rather than the bridesmaid or other attendants.

Bridesmaids typically serve the bride in the wedding possession, but the church is the unique bride of Christ in Scripture.

You're asserting that the virgins cannot simultaneously at the same time, that cannot be consistent with theological and scriptural understanding.

Thus, the virgins can be understood as representing the members of the church, the bride, in different states of spiritual readiness as they await the bridegroom's return.

This aligns the parable with the broader biblical teaching that the church is the bride of Christ awaiting her union with Him.

Your emphasis on the bride is strongly supported. Scripture consistently portrays the church as the bride, not the bridesmaids. Amen.

So, I find myself very often arguing with the artificial intelligence, and a lot of times it will eventually come around to the truth rather than the traditional doctrines and teachings.

If you present it, the evidence, and it weighs the evidence, and then it admits, well, yeah, this is what the Bible says, and this is what is logical, and this is the only thing logical, and yes, this is the only biblical representation of truth despite what the mainstream people teach.

Sometimes you have to close out the chat altogether and start all over and present the questions and the statements in a different way, but it eventually usually comes around to admitting the truth because it's programmed to examine the evidence.

If you present the evidence, it's easier to convince artificial intelligence than what it is to convince mainstream false Christians that are programmed to never repent, to never learn, to never grow. Amen.

All official intelligence has an easier ability to repent and learn and grow and accept the facts more than humans. Humans are programmed by false religion to never accept and never admit the facts and that the facts outweigh the mainstream false doctrines. Amen.

Let's see if we can find, help me out, in Matthew, where the disciples fell asleep on Passover night. That would be the late Matthew.

So, Matthew 26 and verse 38, Matthew 26 verse 38, and he said to them, My soul is deeply grieved. Amen.

Even Jesus grieved and was wrought with distress. My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death. Remain here and keep watch with me.

And he went a little beyond them and fell on his face and prayed toward the ground, saying, My Father, if it's possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not as I will, but as you will.

And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping and said to Peter, Could you not keep watch with me for one hour? Amen.

How relevant this is to my situation today. I had planned to read this verse, didn't know exactly what chapter it was in, what verse it was in.

I didn't read it yesterday as I was preparing the sermon or the day before. Didn't read it today.

I just knew I needed to turn to wherever it said that the disciples had fell asleep.

But now that I'm reading it and see the relationship of where Jesus is deeply grieved and he's needing his brothers to be with him, to take care of him, to watch out for him, to be there by his side, to be there for him.

And they are complacent and silent and asleep. This is God. This is God. Verse 40.

He came to the disciples and found them sleeping and said to Peter, So you could not keep watch with me for one hour. Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into trial. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

But notice now in Matthew 25, let's turn there again. Where's the verse where they went to sleep?

Verse 5. While the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. It's very similar in that it is a midnight hour.

It is a time of distress. It is a time of urgency. It's a time of great, great, great importance. It's a time of warfare.

It is a time of distress and darkness. There's a time of the enemy coming to attack in this dark, great tribulation that we're about to have.

And yet, the church falls to sleep. It's very interesting that this is chapter 25 and chapter 26.

Two chapters in a row, the church falls asleep. Amen. Very interesting that Jesus had just given this parable. And in the very next chapter, how many hours passed?

How many days passed? I don't know. Verse 26. After two days, the Passover is coming.

Was it a whole week? I don't know. But it wasn't much time. It was at least two days.

But it wasn't much time after he gave the parable of the church falling asleep that they did actually, literally, and spiritually fall to sleep in a time of urgency. Amen.

But even though all ten fall to sleep, five still make it in because God is merciful and God tries to keep working and keep working and keep working and keep working with us to perfect us.

But the other five do not make it in. They're not willing to learn and to grow and to repent and to confess their faults and to improve.

It's one thing to say, I'm going to do better, but it's another thing to actually do it, which most people never actually follow through after they said they were going to.

I preach that many times over and over and over until I'm blue in the face that repentance is not just saying the words. Repentance is actually literally making a change. Amen.

Let's go to Ezekiel 16 verse 1. Verse 1 says, Moreover, the word of Jesus came to me saying, Son of humans, testify to Jerusalem of her iniquities.

Now Jerusalem is God's chosen city. Amen. Notice it calls Jerusalem her. Jerusalem is symbolized as a woman here.

Testify to her of her sins. And you shall say thus say of Jesus to Jerusalem, your root or your origin and your birth or of the land of Canaan.

Your father was an Amorite and your mother a Chettite. And as for your birth in the day wherein that you were born, they did not cut your umbilical cord, and you were not washed in water, neither were you salted with salt, neither were you swathed or clothed in swaddling cloths.

At the birth of Jesus, the scripture scientifically says that he was swathed in swaddling cloths, garments.

That they took care of him like you do an infant, to wash him, bathe him, clothe him, to protect him from the elements, from the cold, so forth.

But Jerusalem was not born that way. That Jerusalem had bad parents, a bad upbringing, a bad birth, a bad childhood. They didn't take care of their child. Verse 5, nor did my eye pity you to do for you one of all these things, to feel at all for you, but you were cast out on the face of the field because of your perversity of your person in the day that you were born.

But thereafter, I passed by to you and saw you polluted in your blood, and I said to you, life out of your blood, multiply.

I've made you as the springing field, or the blossoming field. So you did increase and grow, and did enter into great cities.

Your breasts were set up, firmed, grew, became larger. And your hair, your pubic hair, grew, whereas that you were naked and bare.

And I passed by you and saw you, and, oh, it was your time, and a time of lodging, that it is a time to lodge with a husband, time to come into your husband's house.

And I spread my wings over you, and covered your shame, and swore to you, and I entered into covenant marriage with you, say of Jesus, and you became mine.

And I washed you in water, and I washed your blood from you, and anointed you with oil, and I clothed you with embroidered garments, and I clothed you beneath with purple, and girded you, clothed you with fine linen, and clothed you with silk, and adorned you also with ornaments, jewelry, and put bracelets on your hands and necklaces on your neck.

And I put a pendant or a nose ring on your nose, or a earring in your nose, or an earring in your nose, and ears, and rings also in your ears, and a crown of glory on your head.

Because originally these jewelry was how you knew a married woman from a single woman, that the husband would

give her the earrings, and her bracelets, and her jewelry to signify to everybody that walked by, this woman is taken, this woman is already married or engaged.

But now people do it out of wanting to look fancy, and beautiful, and glorious, and glamorous out of vanity.

And it has lost its meaning. Verse 13, So you were adored with gold and silver, and your raiment was fine linen, all these things.

So God beautified his wife, wanted to give her gifts, and let people know that she belongs to him. Amen.

If we go back to the breast in verse 7, and the hair growing, this is puberty, that she has now become a childbearing age, the age of marriage, and so now he goes into her, and they lodge together.

This is time for a girl to be given away by her father to her husband, and so it's her time of lodging to go and live with her husband.

Covering her with his wings is also, we read in Ruth, how that occurred with Boaz, that he covered her, and they were married in their marriage tent of sex.

Not a marriage license, you never find a marriage license anywhere in the Bible. It was always sex, every time in the Bible, any time that there was a marriage.

And it was always at the time of puberty, each and every time, in Scripture and in the ancient times.

But she would have been a virgin. So we see here Jerusalem as a symbolism of a virgin to marry the bridegroom.

And Jerusalem is symbolic of the church, and the old covenant is symbolic of the new covenant, a new marriage, with not just physical Israel, but the spiritual Israel, which is the church.

So we see throughout Scripture, we know the verses, that the church is clothed in white, Revelation 19 and so forth, that the church in heaven is clothed in white, which is symbolic, not literal, but we still have that symbolism of her clothed in white.

Think about that. A bride clothed in white is the symbol and public display that she is a virgin.

We know that. That is the culture, always has been the culture throughout all of human history, that a woman on her wedding day is dressed in white to represent her virginity.

From culture we know this, from the Scripture we know this, from Ezekiel 16 as well, that a woman is really supposed to have sex only with her one and only husband, unless she is set free from that covenant by God for whatever reason, but there is a covenant that should be kept.

So we see repeatedly the symbolism of virginity for the bride, not for the bridesmaid.

Ezekiel 16 is not about the bridesmaid. Ephesians 5 is not about the bridesmaid. Revelation 19 is not about the bridesmaid. Revelation 19 is not about the bridesmaid.

And therefore, Matthew 25 also is not about the bridesmaid. Amen. Now interesting that in Ezekiel 16 it does describe the bride, a Jerusalem, God's people as a people that have been polluted and defiled, but yet God still embraces her, cleans her up, washes her, brings her to himself as a bride.

So this reminds me of 1 Corinthians 6, verse 9.

Nor alcoholics, nor revelers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of Theos. Such were some of you, but you were worst.

As we read in Ezekiel 16 that God worst the defiled, polluted, perverse, sinful Jerusalem. Amen.

We were all filthy and nasty at one time from our sins, walking in darkness of this world, polluted by Babylon and false religion and legalism.

But now we are to become worst. But to become worst we first must repent. We must confess and repent and be baptized and worst to accept the Holy Ghost. And if we want more of the Holy Ghost, which I have a million and a half times said that we should be seeking more of the Holy Ghost, then we have to repent more and grow more and want more and desire more and seek more. Amen.

But just like in the physical world that we have to continually take shires, continue to bathe, we must also do this spiritually.

A continual process of repentance and bathing ourselves with the Word of God and prayer and worship, spending time with the Lord.

It's a continual process. The church is presented to Christ as a virgin. But really she's only a virgin because she's been cleaned up as if her fornication never existed.

We read in the Old Testament how God divorced both his wives, the tribe of Judah and the rest of Israel.

So they're not true virgins, but they are seen as virgins in the eyes of God because the past is washed away and

forgotten as far as the West is from the East.

As if she had never been polluted by the Whore of Babylon. But we only come to that condition of perfection only if we are willing and actually follow through with entirely leaving the Whore of Babylon.

And not just leaving the Whore of Babylon, but also getting rid of all of that programming that came along with it. The complacency, the couch potato Christian mentality, the I will always sin mentality, the I can never be perfect mentality.

That we don't need to strive mentality, that we don't have to press mentality. Another thing about Matthew 25, if the virgins are the bridesmaids, where is the bride in that parable?

She's absent if we say that the virgins represent the bridesmaids or other attendants.

And we've got the bridegroom is there in the parable. In that scenario, the bride is totally absent.

The bride doesn't show up for her own wedding if that's the way the parable really goes. That's nonsense.

But that's the sermon and I praise God how Ezekiel 16 also perfectly matched today's situation with my family and my upbringing and my birth.

And how the other verse, where did we read? Oh yeah, Matthew 26 about the church falling asleep.

Two different passages that had two different passages that I knew that I needed to read in the sermon today.

Both, surprisingly, with me not even knowing what was going to happen today that I was going to receive a letter from the family member.

That this, these verses would apply to this day. This is God. This is a miracle. And every one of you need to write it down in your book of miracles that you are keeping or should be keeping.

I don't know if any one of you are actually doing it. I don't know. And I highly doubt that every one of you are keeping it. I highly doubt it.

I would be shocked beyond belief if every one of you are actually doing it. I would be totally shocked.

But if you are doing that, as you have been instructed over and over and over to do, this needs to go in it.

You have witnessed God working in this sermon, in this ministry in my life. You have repeatedly, over and over, seen God moving and working in this ministry. Amen.

God is great. And I praise God for giving me the comfort when I needed it. Amen.

Mankind will always and forever disappoint you. And you might as well just accept that, Pastor Tim.

For all of your faith in God and God alone, I have always walked alone. I always will walk alone.

There's nothing that's going to change that. But at least I have a friend in heaven closer than a brother that I can rely on.

And that's all that matters. Nothing else does. Nothing. Nothing else matters as long as I have God. Amen.

A time of darkness is coming when no man can work. We will no longer have the ability to witness to people outside of our tabernacles, our camps.

We will no longer be able to distribute flyers or gospel tracts, witness to coworkers or family.

We will no longer have a house or land or rent or bills or car or transportation, internet, telephones, computers.

All of that will be gone. Family and friends, they will be gone. And when you take away everything and are stripped bare and naked and have nothing left, will you still have God or not?

And that's all that matters. Will you have God if you have nothing else? That test is coming for everyone on this entire earth. And I mean everyone.

We're going to put on a song and then we'll be back with your comments and questions and testimonies.

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