

Matthew 25:31-46

- **REJECTION OF THE KING - Matthew 19-25**

- o The Fig Tree...

- After Jesus explained to the DISCIPLES what would take place at the END...
- The Abomination of Desolation - the Tribulation - and Return of Jesus Christ...
- He gave them the PARABLE of the Fig Tree - to tell them when it would all START...
- When the Fig Tree [Israel] - blossoms [come back to life] - the end is near...
- In that GENERATION [100 years] - all things will come to pass!

- o Ten Virgins...

- Then Jesus gave the Parable of the TEN virgins - who were waiting for the Bridegroom...
- They did NOT know when He would come - they had to be READY...
- But FIVE of them did NOT have enough OIL [Holy Spirit] for their LAMPS [Word of God]
- Therefore - they were NOT there when the Bridegroom came - LEFT behind...
- WATCH therefore - because we do NOT know the hour when our Lord will come!

- o The Talents...

- Jesus gave another Parable - three servants were given TALENTS [τάλαντον]
- Two used them for their Master - but the third hid the TALENT in the earth [γῆ]
- Then the Lord [κύριος] came - and demanded an account of their TALENTS...
- The first two had done WELL [εὖ] - because they were GOOD [ἀγαθός] - and had FAITH [πιστός]
- But the third realized too late - his TALENT did not belong to him...
- And because he was WICKED [πονηρός] - he was cast into outer darkness!

- **1ST - THE JUDGEMENT... vs. 31-33**

- o 1st - Second Coming... vs. 31

- All of heaven...
 - When the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the holy angels with Him!
 - As Jesus concludes the Olivet Discourse - His final teaching [in Matthew] before the cross...
 - He finishes by telling the DISCIPLES what will happen when He RETURNS!
 - **Jude 1:14** - "Behold - the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints."
 - At the SECOND coming - when Jesus rides out of Heaven [King of Kings] - **Revelation 19:16**
 - ALL [πάντες] the armies of Heaven will come with Him [glorified bodies] - **Revelation 19:14**
 - That includes ALL of the Old testament believers - ALL of the New Testament believers...
 - EVERYONE who was RAPTURED before the Tribulation - **I Thessalonians 4:17**
 - The innumerable multitude who died for their faith in the Tribulation - **Revelation 7:14**
 - As well as ALL of the Angels of heaven - **Matthew 16:27**
- Armageddon...
 - **II Thessalonians 1:7-8** - "The Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God."
 - Jesus will be REVEALED [ἀποκάλυψις] - to bring VENGEANCE!
 - The battle will begin in Bozrah [Petra] - where Israel will hide for 3.5 years - **Isaiah 63:1**
 - Then Jesus will come to Jerusalem - to the Mount of Olives - **Acts 1:11**
 - When He touches down the Mountain will split in TWO - **Zechariah 14:4**
 - His massive ARMY will come with Him - but will NOT take part in the battle...
 - Jesus will leave us in Jerusalem - go ALONE to the valley of MEGIDDO - **Joel 3:14**
 - With one word He will defeat the Antichrist and his army - **II Thessalonians 2:8**
 - The Antichrist and his False prophet will be captured...
 - And they will be the first to be thrown into the Lake of Fire - **Revelation 19:21**

- o 2nd - Judgement seat... vs. 31-33
 - Throne of Glory...
 - Then He will sit on the throne of His glory!
 - Jesus will then begin to RULE over the world - **Psalm 2:6**
 - Which starts what we call the Millennial Kingdom - 1000 year reign - **Revelation 20:4**
 - When He will reign from His throne in the Israel - in the city of Jerusalem!
 - **Jeremiah 3:17** - "At that time Jerusalem shall be called the Throne of the LORD."
 - 1260 days... vs. 32
 - All the nations will be gathered before Him!
 - From the Abomination of Desolation there will be 1260 days [3.5 years] - **Matthew 24:15**
 - After which Jesus will return and defeat the Antichrist...
 - But not everyone will die in the battle of Armageddon...
 - There will be some people who survive the Great Tribulation!
 - THIRD of the JEWISH nation will survive - **Zechariah 13:8**
 - These Jews will look up and see Jesus return - **Zechariah 12:10**
 - There will also be Gentiles who did NOT take the mark [damnation] - **Revelation 14:9-11**
 - 1290 days...
 - **Daniel 12:11** - "From the abomination of desolation... there shall be 1290 days."
 - 30 days after the Return of Jesus - 1290 days after the Abomination of Desolation...
 - Jesus will gather together ALL [πᾶς] of the NATIONS [ἔθνος] for judgment!
 - There are THREE Judgments in the Bible...
 - FIRST - the BEMA [βῆμα] seat of Christ - **II Corinthians 5:10**
 - This presumably takes place the moment a believer dies [absent from body]
 - SECOND - the Great White throne judgement - **Revelation 20:12**
 - This takes place at the END of the Millennial Kingdom...
 - THIRD - the separation of the Sheep and Goats...
 - This takes place BEFORE - to decide who gets to ENTER the Millennial Kingdom...
 - It would appear that this Judgment lasts for 45 days...
 - Because BLESSED is he who makes it to the 1335 day - **Daniel 12:12**
 - Separation... vs. 32-33
 - [Jesus] will separate them one from another as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.
 - And He will set the sheep on His right hand but the goats on the left!
 - Jesus will separate the NATIONS into TWO categories...
 - As a SHEPHERD is able to separate SHEEP and GOATS!
 - SHEEP and GOATS look similar - sound similar - eat the same things...
 - They live side by side - experiencing much the same life...
 - But the FINAL destination of the GOAT is very different from the SHEEP...
 - The one who can always tell them apart is their shepherd!
 - **John 10:27** - "My sheep hear My voice and I know them - and they follow Me."
 - Both sheep and goats hear Jesus voice - but only the sheep follow Him...
 - Hearing does not make us a Christian - obeying Jesus makes us a sheep!
 - **James 1:22** - "[The Bible] is a message to obey - not just to listen to."
- 2ND - THE SHEEP... vs. 34-40
 - o 1st - Millennial Saints... vs. 34
 - Then the King will say to those on His right hand: Come you blessed of My Father.
 - Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world!
 - The KING [βασιλεύς] will command [imperative] the SHEEP on His right to COME...

- BLESSED [εὐλογέω] - a compound word meaning GOOD [εὖ] WORD [λόγος]
 - Because these SHEEP listened to and OBEYED the GOOD Word...
 - They must INHERIT [imperative] the MILLENNIAL Kingdom...
 - That God prepared [perfect] before He laid the foundation of the world [κόσμος]!
 - Those who TAKE the MARK - get to live in comfort for SEVEN years - **Revelation 13:17**
 - But those who refuse - have the opportunity to live with Christ for THOUSAND years...
 - Sadly - there will be many who chose short term COMFORT - over lasting BLESSINGS!
 - Do NOT miss - this is ALL part of the plan of God...
 - Before He spoke the FIRST word - creating the heavens and the earth - **Genesis 1:1**
 - God already knew how it would all END - He would WIN...
 - The question we have is what are living for - what do we CHOSE...
 - Do we foolishly live for short term COMFORT - or do we want to inherit the BLESSINGS of God!
- o 2nd - Good works... vs. 35-36
- Helpful... vs. 35
 - For I was hungry and you gave Me food. I was thirsty and you gave Me drink!
 - The SHEEP are known by their FRUIT [four examples]
 - It is NOT what saves them - but it does show they are SAVED - **James 2:22**
 - FIRST - if someone was HUNGRY or THIRSTY - they did not hesitate to help them!
 - Keep in mind - this will be during the TRIBULATION...
 - And these SHEEP will NOT take the MARK - so they cannot buy or sell...
 - Therefore - they will NOT have a lot of spare food to give!
 - It is easy to give when we have MORE than enough...
 - But SHEEP help others even when it means they do NOT have enough...
 - Because that shows a heart that has FAITH God will provide - **Matthew 6:33**
 - It shows a heart like Jesus - who puts others FIRST!
 - **Philippian 2:5** - "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."
 - Hospitable... vs. 35
 - I was a stranger and you took Me in!
 - SECOND - if someone was a STRANGER [ξένος] - they took them in!
 - **I Peter 4:9** - "Be hospitable to one another without grumbling."
 - HOSPITABLE [φιλόξενος] - to be kind [φίλος] to strangers [ξένος]
 - We must be HOSPITABLE - practically showing KINDNESS - even to STRANGERS...
 - Not out of OBLIGATION - no GRUMBLING - but out of genuine LOVE...
 - By doing so we show the LOVE of God to others - the goodness of God - **John 13:35**
 - Through which we have the opportunity to tell them about Jesus - **Romans 2:4**
 - Compassionate... vs. 36
 - I was naked and you clothed Me.
 - THIRD - if someone lacked basic needs [clothing] - they had compassion!
 - SHEEP concern themselves with the needs of others - they have COMPASSION...
 - If someone is LACKING - they see it as THEIR problem...
 - Because they understand the command the Lord has given to us!
 - **Galatians 6:2** - "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."
 - Humble... vs. 36
 - I was sick and you visited Me! I was in prison and you came to Me!
 - FOURTH - they did NOT abandon those who were ALONE...
 - If someone was SICK [weak] - they would keep an EYE [σκοπός] on them...
 - If they were in PRISON [imperfect] - they would visit them!
 - When Paul was arrested the second time [Mamertine] - he was ALONE - **II Timothy 4:16**

- But Onesiphorus traveled from Ephesus [1000 km] - to Rome to find Paul...
- And when he arrived he searched zealously till he found him!
- **II Timothy 1:16** - "For he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chain."
- We are called to refresh one another – not just when it is convenient or easy...
- There is great joy as we get to pour the love of Jesus into the lives of others!
- **Proverbs 11:25** - "Those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."

o 3rd - Least of these... vs. 37-40

- The Righteous... vs. 37-39
 - Then the righteous will answer Him saying:
 - Lord when did we see You hungry and feed You - or thirsty and give You drink?
 - When did we see You a stranger and take You in - or naked and clothe You?
 - When did we see You sick - or in prison - and come to You?
 - RIGHTEOUS [δίκαιος] - those who are RIGHT before God...
 - The irony is - they did NOT even know what they had done RIGHT...
 - Because they had to ask the Lord [κύριος] - WHEN [πότε] had they done these things...
 - Which tells you they had the RIGHT heart in doing them!
 - Too many people do GOOD works - so that they can be SEEN by others...
 - They are looking for the PRAISE and RECOGNITION of men - **Matthew 6:5**
 - But in order to be RIGHTEOUS - we must do things with the RIGHT heart...
 - NOT for the glory of MEN - but for the glory of GOD!
- The Head... vs. 40
 - The King will answer and say to them: Assuredly I say to you.
 - Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren - you did it to Me!
 - Jesus [the King] will answer and say to them - AMEN [Ἀμήν]
 - When they did [ποιέω] these things to the LEAST [μικρόν] of the brothers...
 - They also did [ποιέω] it [indicative] unto Jesus!
 - If someone has a cut on their hand - or a broken leg...
 - And the doctor helps to heal them - they are not helping the hand or leg...
 - They are helping the person - and that person will be THANKFUL!
 - **Colossians 1:18** - "[Jesus] is the head of the body - the church."
 - Make no mistake - when we minister to the BODY of Christ [church]
 - We are blessing the HEAD of the Body - we are ministering to Christ...
 - And there will come a day when He will give us THANKS for what we did!

● 3RD - THE GOATS... vs. 41-46

o 1st - Lake of Fire... vs. 41

- Cursed...
 - Then He will also say to those on the left hand: Depart from Me you cursed!
 - The KING [βασιλεύς] will then command [imperative] the GOATS on His left to GO...
 - CURSED - they were always doomed [perfect] - because of who they were [passive]
 - They had NOT listened to the GOSPEL [good news]
 - Therefore they will NOT be allowed into the Millennial Kingdom...
 - Instead they will be EXECUTED - and sent to HELL [ᾗδης]
 - Where they will have to WAIT until AFTER the Millennial Kingdom...
 - When they will stand before the Great White throne!
 - **Revelation 20:13** - "Death and Hades deliver up the dead who are in them. And they are judged each one according to their works."
- Everlasting fire...
 - Into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels!

- EVERLASTING [αἰώνιος] fire - another name for the Lake of Fire!
 - Unlike HELL [ᾗδης] - that is located in the center of the earth...
 - We do NOT know WHERE the Lake of Fire is located [not in this universe]
 - It is a place of DARKNESS - because God is not there - **John 8:12**
 - It is place of BRIMSTONE [450°C] - it is VERY hot - **Revelation 20:12**
 - It was created by God - for the DEVIL and his fallen ANGELS - **Revelation 12:9**
 - Satan is NOT in Hell [ᾗδης] - he is the god of this world - **Ephesians 2:2**
 - And he will NOT be ruling once he is thrown into the Lake of Fire - it is his PRISON!
 - Sadly they will NOT be the ONLY prisoners to be cast out there...
 - So also will everyone whose names are NOT in the book of LIFE - **Revelation 20:15**
- o 2nd - Bad Works... vs. 42-45
- Selfish... vs. 42-43
 - For I was hungry and you gave Me no food. I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink.
 - I was a stranger and you did not take Me in. Naked and you did not clothe Me.
 - Sick and in prison and you did not visit Me!
 - The GOATS are also known by their FRUIT...
 - It is NOT what curses them - but it does show they are CURSED - **James 2:22**
 - They did NOT do any of the things that the SHEEP did...
 - Because they did NOT care about others - they ONLY cared about themselves!
 - The Question... vs. 44
 - Then they also will answer Him saying: Lord when did we see You hungry or thirsty.
 - Or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not minister to You?
 - Note the response is almost identical to the SHEEP...
 - They did NOT know what they had done WRONG...
 - They had to ask the Lord [κύριος] - WHEN [πότε] had they NOT done these things...
 - They will no doubt THINK - if we had seen Jesus - we would have HELPED!
 - The Answer... vs. 45
 - Then He will answer them saying: Assuredly I say to you.
 - Inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these - you did not do it to Me!
 - Jesus [the King] will answer and say to them - AMEN [Ἀμήν]
 - When they did [ποιέω] NOT do these things to the LEAST [μικρός]
 - Interesting that the word BROTHER [ἀδελφός] is missing - because they are NOT family...
 - They also did [ποιέω] NOT do it [indicative] unto Jesus!
 - The family with NO food – the NEW face at church – the neighbor who is SICK...
 - Jesus is waiting for us to come and show them the LOVE of God...
 - It is NOT that the goat will NOT help – it is that they do NOT even SEE the need...
 - They are so caught up in themselves – they miss everyone else around them – they miss Jesus!
- o 3rd - Two destinations... vs. 46
- These will go away into everlasting punishment - but the righteous into eternal life!
 - Everyone will live FOREVER [αἰώνιος] - the ONLY question is where...
 - The GOATS will be sent into everlasting [αἰώνιος] PUNISHMENT [κόλασις] - 2x in NT...
 - **I John 4:18** - "Perfect love casts out fear - because fear involves torment [κόλασις]."
 - The SHEEP - who have received the perfect LOVE of Jesus...
 - Will be sent into everlasting [αἰώνιος] LIFE - the New Jerusalem - **Revelation 21-22**
 - There are only TWO options when it comes to our ETERNAL fate - SHEEP or GOATS...
 - The way to tell the difference - is by our ACTIONS - selfish or selfless!