

# Welcome to Spiritual Wisdom Knowledge and Understanding

My name is Lisa Kane

This message is called "Who's Going in the Rapture"

<b>Matthew 25:1-13 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<b>The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins</b>
25 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Now five of them were wise, and five <i>were</i> foolish. <sup>3</sup> Those who <i>were</i> foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.
<sup>6</sup> "And at midnight a cry was <i>heard</i> : 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; <sup>[a]</sup> go out to meet him!' <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us <i>some</i> of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.
<sup>11</sup> "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' <sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'
<sup>13</sup> "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour <sup>[b]</sup> in which the Son of Man is coming.

I have always found the parable of the wise and foolish virgins challenging but as I pondered on it this week, the Lord showed me something very interesting.

We know this parable is about the return of Jesus Christ because He says, "for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming". That same phrase is used in Matthew 24:36 and Mark 13:32 when Jesus is answering the disciples questions on what the signs will be when the end comes.

<b>Matthew 24:36 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<b>No One Knows the Day or Hour</b>
<sup>36</sup> "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, <sup>[a]</sup> but My Father only.
<b>Mark 13:32 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<b>No One Knows the Day or Hour</b>
<sup>32</sup> "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.
<b>1 Thessalonians 4:17 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive <i>and</i> remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

This parable and these three verses I just read speak of the return of Jesus Christ. There will be a group of people who will be Jesus Christ in the clouds.

Let's break things down to the simple...when you are a believer and you die, you are absent from the body and present with the Lord.

### **2 Corinthians 5:6-8 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>6</sup> So *we are* always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

So when the Lord returns, there will be believers on the Earth who have not died. Jesus isn't forgetting them. Him or His angels are going to blow a trumpet and those alive who believe and walk with God will be caught up with Him in the clouds.

Let's read another scripture to grasp the whole picture here...

### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-10 New King James Version (NKJV)**

#### **The Day of the Lord**

<sup>5</sup> But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. <sup>6</sup> Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

Ok...Paul says whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. He's clearly identifying those that already died and those that are alive when this meeting up in the clouds take place.

This is where the five wise virgins and five foolish virgins come in.

Note, they were all virgins. Meaning they are all believers.

### **Romans 10:13 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>13</sup> For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."<sup>[a]</sup>

God is not a liar...so anyone who calls on His name shall be saved.

So notice that ½ of those believers were caught up and ½ were not. This is important. What is different between these two groups of believers and which group are you in?

First, I don't want you to be scared. Remember, anyone who calls upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved. God is not a liar. So if you miss the rapture, you can still go to heaven...think of it like this, everyone for centuries has died and if he or she believed, he or she went to paradise and in the presence of God. They weren't raptured but they still made it to the presence of the Lord. You ask, how do I know that? Faith...God's word says it and I believe it.

So that means the rapture is for a special group of people that God is saying He doesn't want them to go through the tribulation. Whew...see, I told you that you didn't need to be afraid. Obviously, this is the group we want to be in.

Ok...let's identify this group. To do that, we need to see previous raptures in the Bible. Yep, there were two raptures before this one that took place.

First, let's understand the bible is divided into dispensations.

Dictionary.com defines a dispensation as the following:

4.

*Theology.*

- a. the divine ordering of the affairs of the world.
- b. an appointment, arrangement, or favor, as by God.
- c. a divinely appointed order or age:
  - a. *the old Mosaic, or Jewish, dispensation; the new gospel, or Christian, dispensation.*

The first dispensation in the bible is the event of creation to the flood. Some theologians call this the age of innocence or the dispensation of innocence. I don't like to call it that because the flood came because these people were evil. I understand why they call it this though because Adam and Eve were innocent.

Whatever this age is called, the time period still stands...from creation to the flood. That age had its own rules and regulations on getting saved, and it was very different from our rules / regulations we're under today.

Well, you say how do I know that? I know that because there was only one who was raptured and 8 souls who survived this age. That's it??? Yep.

Enoch was raptured.

**Genesis 5:24 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>24</sup> And Enoch walked with God; and he *was* not, for God took him.

Noah and his family survived the flood. That's the only 8 survivors of the flood.

**Genesis 6:8 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

**Genesis 7:7 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.

**Genesis 7:23 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who *were* with him in the ark remained *alive*.

So what was the rules / regulations that caused them to be saved? Enoch walked with God and Noah found grace with God.

Notice both were saved. But one went up in the rapture and one went through the tribulation.

Doesn't this remind you of the five wise virgins and the five foolish virgins?

I want to pause here briefly and advise you to read the Book of Enoch. This book describes what happened to Enoch in detail and what he became in heaven. God put Enoch in charge of almost all the angels in heaven. It definitely surprised the angels. It was like God picked Enoch – the best of mankind and placed him high in heaven.

I believe that is what He will do with those caught up in the clouds with Jesus Christ in this upcoming rapture.

**Psalms 92:13 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>13</sup> Those who are planted in the house of the LORD  
Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Wow...can you imagine God selecting this group of people who desired Him too and planting them in His house???

Continuing on with the message now...

There was another rapture in the age of the law or the dispensation of the law.

This dispensation is defined from after the flood to Jesus dying on the cross.

Again, only one person was raptured and one person went through the tribulation.

<b>2 Kings 2:11 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
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<sup>11</sup> Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire <i>appeared</i> with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.
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<b>Mark 15:33-37 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
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<b>Jesus Dies on the Cross</b>
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<sup>33</sup> Now when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. <sup>34</sup> And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" <sup>[a]</sup>
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<sup>35</sup> Some of those who stood by, when they heard <i>that</i> , said, "Look, He is calling for Elijah!"
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<sup>36</sup> Then someone ran and filled a sponge full of sour wine, put <i>it</i> on a reed, and offered <i>it</i> to Him to drink, saying, "Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to take Him down."
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<sup>37</sup> And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last.
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If you read about the life of Elijah, you will find that he obeyed God in whatever God asked of him.

Jesus did the same but because He had no sin, He gave Himself up as the sin sacrifice to fulfill the law.

<b>Matthew 5:17 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
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<b>Christ Fulfills the Law</b>
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<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.
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Jesus had to go through the tribulation in order to save us.

As you can see from both ages or dispensations, there was a rapture, and one who went through the tribulation.

The next dispensation or age is called the age or dispensation of grace. It starts from when Jesus died on the cross to the last generation that gets caught up in the clouds with Jesus' return.

In this dispensation, Paul prophesies by sharing the mystery that there will be a generation that will be caught up in the clouds. John in Revelation also speaks of this generation appearing suddenly in heaven. John also prophesies with Revelation that there will be a tribulation so bad that Jesus said it was shortened for the elect.

<b>1 Thessalonians 4:17 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive <i>and</i> remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.
<b>Revelation 7:9 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<b>A Multitude from the Great Tribulation</b>
<sup>9</sup> After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
<b>Revelation 7:14 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<sup>14</sup> And I said to him, “Sir, <sup>[a]</sup> you know.”
So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
<b>Revelation 8:5-7 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<sup>5</sup> Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw <i>it</i> to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.
<sup>6</sup> So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.
<b>First Trumpet: Vegetation Struck</b>
<sup>7</sup> The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. <sup>[a]</sup> And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.
<b>Matthew 24:22 New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
<sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.

As you can see, there’s a rapture and tribulation. I didn’t put all the verses in here but you can take the time to read Revelation thoroughly later.

Don’t you think this rapture and tribulation will follow like the others? God is a God of order. He plans and prepares everything.

So what do we have to do to be selected to go up in the rapture? Remember, only one person made it in the previous two raptures.

The good news is that Paul says ‘we’...that means more than one person this time around. Woo hoo!

So how do we make sure we get in the group that gets caught up in the clouds with Christ when the trumpet sounds?

Let’s follow our predecessor’s example...

Enoch walked with God.

Elijah obeyed God.

How do you walk and obey God?

**Matthew 22:37-39 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, ““You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>38</sup> This is *the* first and great commandment. <sup>39</sup> And *the* second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’<sup>[b]</sup>

This separates the few from the general population.

Now do you see who the five wise virgins are and who the five foolish virgins are?

The five wise virgins are the ones who walk with God. They consider God in all in their decisions. They think of God when they wake up and go to bed at night. They read His word and meditate in it often. These are the ones that have a full deep relationship with God by praying, praising, and worshiping Him. In fact, they obey Him too. When they feel or hear Him tell them to give clothing or food to someone, they do so without hesitating. They don't worry about giving money to people begging in the streets because it's about the giving, which is more important to God than what that beggar will do with the money. The point is they're listening. They're watching. They're waiting for their Savior to return! Hallelujah!

The five foolish virgins are the ones who may have called on God to be their Lord and savior but they have no relationship with Him. They don't pray often. They don't read the Bible often. They do sometimes but it's not at the forefront of their minds. It takes a hard situation for them to finally remember God and ask for help and even then, they see with their own eyes and try to get out of the situation by themselves not realizing God put them there to remind them that He will get them out of the situation if only they will call on Him. These are the ones that will be taken by surprise by the return of the Lord. In fact, it will be like a thief in the night to them because they weren't watching.

The parable uses the oil in the lamps as the example. The oil represents the anointing of the holy spirit. The five foolish virgins are not filled with the holy spirit.

Now remember, I'm identifying who will go in the rapture. That doesn't mean those that missed it will not go to heaven. It simply means they will enter the next dispensation and will face going through the tribulation.

I believe the rapture is going to take those that God finds special and He wants to keep close to Him. He plans to plant them in His home. That will be those who put God first. Amen!

If the Lord is returning in September 2017, which group will you be in when the rapture takes place? Are you of the five foolish virgins or the five wise virgins?

Remember, that's ½ and ½. Only ½ will have that great opportunity to be caught up in the clouds with the Lord.

Let's read the parable again...

**Matthew 25:1-13 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins**

25 “Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. <sup>3</sup> Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

<sup>6</sup> “And at midnight a cry was *heard*: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; <sup>[a]</sup> go out to meet him!’ <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

<sup>11</sup> “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ <sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’

<sup>13</sup> “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour <sup>[b]</sup> in which the Son of Man is coming.

Walk and obey God. Love Him with all your heart, soul, and mind. Let your actions speak louder than words.

Make sure Jesus knows you...He listens to prayers and He sees the heart. What’s in your heart?

**Psalm 44:21 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>21</sup> Would not God search this out?  
For He knows the secrets of the heart.

**Luke 16:15 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>15</sup> And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

**Acts 15:8 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as *He did* to us,

**Acts 4:31 New King James Version (NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Now is the time to be filled with the holy spirit. Humble yourself before God and begin to have a deep relationship with Him. Because you want to be planted in His house. You want to be caught up in the clouds with Jesus Christ. You don’t want to be in the group that ends up going through that tribulation. It will be awful.

Let’s pray:

Dear Heavenly Father, I lift us all up to Your throne room and declare You Lord Jesus over our hearts placing You in charge. Set our hearts right with You. Make us / me ready for Your return. I want to be a



part of that generation that gets caught up in the clouds with my Lord and Savior Jesus. Thank You. In Jesus' Name Amen!

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