

PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS



The question was asked;
How do I understand Matt, 25: 1-13? Parable Of The Ten Virgins

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Robert Ferrell:

Anyway, there is an interpretation given in the Epistle of the Apostles:

"Then answered he us, saying: Only do ye that which I say unto you, even as I myself also have done it.

43 And ye shall be like the wise virgins which watched and slept not, but went forth unto the lord into the bride chamber: but the foolish virgins were not able to watch, but slumbered. And we said unto him: Lord, who are the wise and who are the foolish? He said unto us: Five wise and five foolish; for these are they of whom the prophet hath spoken: Sons of ; God are they. Hear now their names.

But we wept and were troubled for them that slumbered. He said unto us: The five wise are **Faith and Love and Grace and Peace and Hope**. Now they of the faithful which possess this (these) shall be guides unto them that have believed on me and on him that sent me. For I am the Lord and I am the bridegroom whom they have received, and they have entered in to the house of the bridegroom and are laid down with me in the bridal chamber rejoicing.

But the five foolish, when they had slept and had awaked, came unto the door of the bridal chamber and knocked, for the doors were shut. Then did they weep and lament that no man opened unto them.

We said unto him: Lord, and their wise sisters that were within in the bridegroom's house, did they continue without opening unto them, and did they not sorrow for their sakes nor entreat the bridegroom to open unto

them? He answered us saying: They were not yet able to obtain favor for them.

We said unto him: Lord, on what day shall they enter in for their sisters' sake?

Then said he unto us: He that is shut out, is shut out. And we said unto him: Lord,

is this word (determined?). Who then are the foolish? He said unto us: Hear their names. They are **Knowledge, Understanding (Perception) Obedience, Patience, and Compassion**. These are they that slumbered in them that have believed and confessed me but have not fulfilled my commandments.

44 On account of them that have slumbered, they shall remain outside the kingdom and the fold of the shepherd and his sheep. But whoso shall abide outside the sheepfold, him will the wolves devour, and he shall be (condemned?) and die in much affliction: in him shall be no rest nor endurance, and (Eth.) although he be hardly punished, and rent in pieces and devoured in long and evil torment, yet shall he not be able to obtain death quickly.

45 And we said unto him: Lord, well hast thou revealed all this unto us. Then answered he us, saying: Understand ye not (or. Ye understand not) these words? We said unto him: Yea Lord. By five shall men enter into thy kingdom : notwithstanding, they that watched were with thee the Lord and bridegroom, even though they rejoiced not because of them that slumbered (yet will they have no pleasures because of, Eth.).

He said unto us: They will indeed rejoice that they have entered in with the bridegroom the Lord; and they are sorrowful because of them that slumbered, for they are their sisters. For all ten are daughters of God, even the Father. Then said we unto him: Lord is it then for thee to show them favor on account of their sisters? (It becometh thy majesty to show them favor, Eth.) He said unto us: but his that sent me, and I am consenting with him (It is not yours, &c., Eth.).

I think that what is essentially being said here is that faith, love, grace, peace, & hope involve a sort of waiting...in that we as Christians have retained most of these "virgins" or attributes. Faith is the substance of things hoped for. It is God's manifestation of His Grace and Love and Peace that give us the Hope that our Faith depend upon I guess. What we have neglected would therefore be the five necessary attributes that would open the door so to speak. If we had the knowledge that we currently lack, that is to say, that knowledge of the Biblical writers--that these books are inspired; and that the Bible is written in such a way as to encode this information for a future generation to be rediscovered by them

at just the right moment in time could lead to our proper Understanding of the Scriptures, which we currently lack, then presumably we could come into obedience to God's command that we should listen to Him, and help to "speed the Lord's coming," as Peter puts it counting the Lord's so-called "slowness in coming"--as he puts it--as His Patience, and His long-suffering as salvation as Peter also puts it. Jude tells us to have "Compassion" on some, making a difference."

1: Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious FAITH with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the KNOWLEDGE of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3: According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the KNOWLEDGE of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5: And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your FAITH virtue; and to virtue KNOWLEDGE;

6: And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance PATIENCE; and to PATIENCE godliness;

7: And to godliness BROTHERLY KINDNESS; and to BROTHERLY KINDNESS CHARITY.

8: For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the KNOWLEDGE of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9: But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

[Like those who lack the KNOWLEDGE and UNDERSTANDING and OBEDIENCE and PATIENCE and COMPASSION requisite to enter into the kingdom--and hence to regain our "Divine Nature" that Peter is reminding us of.... His defense of Jude's letter, along with Enoch and the Assumption of Moses is part of the information we need to regain this requisite knowledge--and he repeatedly tells us that he

knew it, as did his own followers, but that WE would need to be reminded. Hence in US this knowledge would fall asleep if you will.]

10: Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye DO these things, ye shall never fall:

[OBEDIENCE]

11: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

[Just like those "sisters" will be allowed in after all--but only in God's time, which I'd say is about now.....]

12: Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in REMEMBRANCE of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

[We are going to lose the KNOWLEDGE that they had then--what was then the PRESENT TRUTH comes to US later--by way of REMEMBRANCE:]

13: Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in REMEMBRANCE;

14: Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

15: Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in REMEMBRANCE.

16: For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, [Meaning that people would accuse him of being very CLEVER in the designing of this letter....] when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, [Which cryptically is what this letter is about--how to "speed" the Lord's coming through the POWER of this very clever letter.] but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17: For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such

a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18: And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

19: We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

[Now I'm reasonably certain that this "answer" about no prophecy of the scripture being of any private interpretation coupled with the answer that they were moved by the Holy Ghost is in response to the questions: "Are these prophets inspired?" which would probably NOT be asked of the 24 prophets, but more likely of sources like Enoch and the Assumption of Moses. Furthermore, he mentions that "prophecy" (the same word Jude used in vs. 14 with reference to the Book of Enoch,) came in "old time" meaning that this was the answer to the question of their antiquity. It is difficult to imagine that the antiquity of any of the 24 was in question, but the antiquity of Enoch and the Assumption of Moses certainly were in question. Another question he basically takes the time to answer is if they were for people to interpret for themselves. Apparently these books have specific meanings which are revealed by the Holy Spirit, and cannot be interpreted or understood by men--presumably unless they have the "proper" KNOWLEDGE and UNDERSTANDING.

The fact that he then goes right on into the Jude material further underscores the theory that the sources that Peter was defending here were apocryphal in nature. And since Jude probably would not have been retained had it not been for Peter's allusions to nearly every part of that letter, seeing as how the editors of the New Testament relegated it to the lowest position possible in the ordering of the canon--even though its strong ties with Second Peter would dictate that it should

follow it in the canon--which is also something of a smoking gun. If it weren't for the fact that the simple truth of the relationship of those letters is very straightforward and a very straightforward line of reasoning leads to the simple conclusion that they work together like a lock and key to open up the simple truth that lead to us remembering that simple knowledge that Peter said he would "Remind us of." He even goes on to tell us in chapter three that this was the message of the Apostles and the prophets, and of Jesus and of Paul. He says that people twist Paul's message--as well as the other Scriptures to their own destruction. And what do they perish of? God's people perish from lack of knowledge. (Hos 4:6)

Anyway, I see Peter as that Key to Jude's lock, even as Jesus said. He gave Peter the keys to the kingdom. Because he stopped short of quoting Enoch as blatantly as Jude had, he gave the theologians who came after enough rope to hang themselves. The Church (Peter) bound on earth what was bound in heaven. It was God Who devised this plan to allow man to wallow in his sins for 2,000 years, and it is He who has given us that same power to loose on earth what He has loosed in heaven. He has given us these two letters in order to accomplish that very thing. I think that the Epistle of the Apostles gives us information we otherwise would not have had. With God's permission to read these books in faith, we can begin to use this information to unravel mysteries.

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