

- Proverbs 21:17
- Proverbs 22:7

C. Who are the sheep?

### LIVE THE STORY

*We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.*

- Think of the Joshua Bell story. Many passed by because they didn't perceived who He was. Do your priorities reflect a proper perception of the Savior and His words? Explain.
- How does Jesus' prophecy re: the destruction of Jerusalem speak to our need to be ready for the Day of Judgment?
- How does the comparison to the days of Noah speak to the unexpected nature of the Lord's return?
- What are the two opposing roles presented in 25:43-51 as to how the Lord may return for different people? What are the two opposing roles would be disciples might take on?
- Why is it so important that we prepare our lives for the long haul in the walk of faith? How do we do that? What connection does the bridegroom's statement in 25:12 have to an earlier part of Matthew?
- How might our our fear of loss cause us to “bury” the grace investment we have received? How might our belief in God's grace and the words of Christ cause us to *put it to work*?
- How does the scene of the judgment reveal that genuine saving faith in the Savior (Loving the Gospel) will result in conformity to the Savior (Living the Gospel)?

## When Will This Happen Part 2: Perceptions and Priorities

Jerry Cisar—September 6, 2009

**Text:** Matthew 24:36—25:46

**Introduction: Matthew 24:1-3 Jesus leaves the temple**

A. What is our *perception*? What are our *priorities*?

i. The 1<sup>st</sup> question:

➤ Matthew 24:2-3

ii. Concerning Your 2<sup>nd</sup> Question...

ESV: *But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.*

### I. 24:36-51 Watch Because You Do Not Know

A. As it was in the Days of Noah

B. What's the take away? What kernel are we to understand?  
*“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.”*

i. **What does it mean to keep watch?**

a) Romans 13:11-14

b) Ephesians 5:9-14

ii. **What is meant by “you do not know when”?**

## II. 24:43-51 Do Not Let Your House Be Broken Into

- A. Two pictures:
  - i. An owner of the house...
  
  - ii. A faithful servant in the master's house...
  
- B. A 3<sup>rd</sup> possibility:
  
- C. In each of these scenarios, the return will be delayed; in each of these, it will be unexpected.

## III. 25:1-13 Be Ready for the Long Haul

- A. Parable of the 10 Virgins
  
- B. What is the point? What is the meaning?
  - i. Be READY! Make preparations...
  
  - ii. What happens if you are not ready?
  
  - iii. What is readiness?

## IV. 25:14-30 Do Not Fear Loss; Put Grace to Work

- A. How do I prepare? What does it mean to be ready?

➤ Phil. 2:12-13

Priorities: If Jesus can predict right down to the details the destruction of the temple, then you can trust that He is reigning in heaven and His grace will be powerful and effective. "Pursue the bottom rung... follow Me."

- B. Are the talents our abilities?

- C. The take away? vs. 19

- i. It will be a long time.
  
- ii. There will be an accounting.

## V. 31-46 Make Sure Loving the Gospel Results in Living the Gospel

- A. This is not a parable.
  
- B. Sheep and goats...

➤ Proverbs 10:3-4