## HOW CAN WE KNOW WE ARE TRULY SAVED? JESUS THROUGH A PARABLE CONTINUES TO REVEAL HIS GREAT CONCERN FOR THOSE WHO THINK THEY'RE SAVED BUT ARE NOT Matthew 25:1-13

- I. UNDERSTAND THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT AND CULTURAL OF THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS: Jesus is speaking to Jewish tribulation saints (the saved) and aints (those who think they are saved but are not) (25:1-12)
  - A. We need to understand the immediate context (ch 24 and 25;1)
  - B. What is a parable?
  - C. We need to understand the historical and cultural context of a Jewish wedding
- II. GRASP THE INTENDED MEANING OF THE PARABLE: Jesus makes it clear not everyone who thinks they're entering the kingdom will enter. Only those prepared to meet Him will enter (1-12)
  - A. The parable is about future entrance into the kingdom of heaven (25:1)
  - B. Who does the groom represent?
  - C. Who do the 10 virgins represent?
    - 1. The 5 prudent
    - 2. The 5 foolish
  - D. THE MAIN POINT (10-12)
    - 1. Those who truly know Jesus are ready to meet Him and will enter His kingdom (10-12)
    - 2. Those who think they know Jesus, yet evidence they do not know Him because they're not ready to meet Him, will be barred from His kingdom (10-12)
- III. HEED THE ETERNAL WARNING! Be truly ready to meet Him (13)