

Come As You Are (CAYA) Service
Wednesday, June 1, 2011
Rev. Terrance McKinley, Greater Allen Cathedral AME Church

Lamps With No Oil

Notes by Morrice Scott

Scripture Reference - Matthew 25 : 1 - 13

Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

1 "Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
3 The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps,
4 but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil.
5 When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.
6 "At midnight they were roused by the shout, 'Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!'
7 "All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps.
8 Then the five foolish ones asked the others, 'Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.'
9 "But the others replied, 'We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.'
10 "But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked.
11 Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, 'Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!'
12 "But he called back, 'Believe me, I don't know you!'
13 "So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.

Daily Thought: Are My Actions running counter to what the Word says?

Our Struggle: Trying to serve two Gods

1 Kings 18:21

Then Elijah stood in front of them and said, "How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!" But the people were completely silent.

We can not serve two Gods ! We will Love One and Hate the Other.

Our Reward is worshiping The Right Thing

Are you a Lamp with No Oil ?

When we choose a different path the outcome will have different results.
When you want what everyone else wants it wont take long to achieve.

GODS WAY IS THE BEST FOR ME

We are not defined by our circumstances !

We speak Life over things !

Example : Daniel had an Excellent Spirit

King Nebuchadnezzar's chief of staff, Ashpenaz renamed Daniel.

(He was named Belteshazzar after my god, and the **Spirit** of the Holy Gods is in him.)

Your ATTITUDE determines Your ALTITUDE !

When Christ saved Us He saved our Vocabulary

(Redeemed our Speech)

After our Commitment to be different
circumstances

will cause us to question our Commitment

didn't remain Holy>

<disrupt the="" call="" to="" be="" different=""></disrupt>

When called to be different we must Mature as well.....

My mistakes don't define my journey or my commitment

Can you Live in a World of War n B@PEACE ?

Lamps with No Oil

1. DON'T REALIZE THEIR OWN VALUE

We are Valuable - Our situations don't define our value

- We can make mistakes and keep going
- God defines our value - God wants me to keep going
- We devalue ourselves

**Outsource our Significance to People or
draw ourselves to things God is not in**

Do you know how VALUABLE you are to God ?

Matthew 10:29-31

29 What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it.

30 And the very hairs on your head are all numbered.

*31 So don't be afraid; **you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.***

Deuteronomy 28:13

*13 If you listen to these commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today, and if you carefully obey them, the Lord will make you the **head** and **not the tail**, and you will always be on top and never at the bottom.*

Maturity is Pressing through your mistakes !

2. ARE UNEQUIPPED TO HANDLE LONG PERIODS OF WAITING

- Be Watchful - Matthew 25:13 "So you, too, must keep watch!"
- Watchfulness is a Commitment to Gods Purpose

- Waiting is doing what God called you to do
- "Living the Life God called me to Live"**

- Somethings you should sense God is going to do
- Sometimes you look like you're ready but need to wait a little longer

Temptation of Progression - Tempted to become something to fast

3. POWERLESS TO DO WHAT THEY ARE DESIGNED TO DO

Oil in Biblical Times was used to anoint only kings and priests; according to Scripture, however, believers in Yahweh as the divine Son of God and as their Savior and Lord are "priests"; they are kings; and they may justifiably view their being anointed with oil as a physical manifestation of their being filled continuously with the Holy Spirit. Indeed, according to most Bible scholars, in God's Word anointing oil typically symbolizes the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, "ordinary" ancient Israelites anointed themselves and each other with oil.

Mary of Bethany: A woman with an alabaster jar filled with very expensive perfume approaches Jesus, breaks the jar, and begins pouring the precious oil over His head and feet. As the house fills with the oil's pungent fragrance, the Lord says to those nearby: "She has done a beautiful thing for me...She poured this perfume on me to prepare my body for burial...I tell you that throughout the whole world...what she has done will be told in her memory." Obviously, our Lord was deeply touched by Mary's unselfish, thoughtful, heartfelt, sacrificial expression of devotion and profound love. Some Bible commentators deem Mary's faithful act as the utmost example of what God desires in believers.

- The Brides carried oil to signify they were ready for the Bridegroom
- We should keep our oil burning
- Keeping our oil burning gives Us access to the Father and His Presence
- Commit to Prayer, Fasting & Holiness

Lamps with no oil→look like Christians but their Life bares no fruit !

Lamps with no oil→can not create heat in a cold winter !

Tap into the Power God has in You. Be Ready for what God has for you
LIVE ON PURPOSE

We are inclined to→**attach ourselves to lamps with no oil !**

When life gets dark and cold we need someone to bring **LIGHT & HEAT !**

4. WILL SIPHON OFF SOME OF YOUR OIL

- In their presence you feel drained
- Be careful who you yolk yourself too
- Be Ready-Equipped in difficult circumstances when times get tough

The Blessing is in your Progress

Be Favorable in seasons that are Unfavorable

Be willing to be ready even when the wait is to long

Be in a New Season on a New Page

Oil is Valuable→**The Bridegroom is worth waiting on.....**

Pressure is Designed to Produce what God has called you to do and The Blessing is worth the Pressing.....

LIKE THE WISE VIRGINS OUR LAMPS NEED TO BE FILLED WITH OIL. ALWAYS PREPARED FOR THE BRIDEGROOM.

WE NEED TO HAVE A SENSE OF WHO GOD IS IN OUR LIVES

all things work for our good

To be **Different** but **Remain Steady** because **God is Faithful**

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