Matt. 25:1-13.

THE ALARM GOES OFF AT MIDNIGHT

Intro. Outline of future. Quite right to speak of 2nd coming as includ rapture and return. Like 1st advent. X threw spotlight on both in last 2 discourses. Upper room spoke of rapture. Olivet of return esp. Peter, Jas, Jn Andrew, Mk 13:3. Disciples as Jews.
3 ques. 24:3. No 1 ans in Lk 21:21-24.
No 2 in24:4-26. No 3 in 4:27ff.
Sign of end of age is trib. 1st half described in 4-14. 2nd half in 15-26. Sign of coming not stated but 6 illustrations follow of it. Fig tree, 4:32-36; days of Noah, 24:37-39; the 2, 24:43-51; 10 virgins, 25:1-13; talents, 25:14-30.

I. THE CASE OF THE VIRGINS, 1-5.

A. The Time, 1. Then. cf. 37, 42, 50. 2nd coming.
B. The Characters. 10 just round number like out dozen. 3 groups of virgins at Jewish wedding. (1) Bride's companions who stayed thruout, Psa 45:14. (2) Those who met procession part way. (3) Those who wait at feasting place (groom's house). Jud 14:10. This is group of parable. Went forth from own homes. Ms add bride
C. Their condition. Foolish and wise. Not good and bad. All had lamps and vessels for extra oil. Represents profession of belief. Oil is HS who produces proof of profession in works--light shining. All guilty of lack of watchfulness, 5. Dropped off to sleep and went on sleeping (impf). Little outward distinction. Wheat and tares. Kgdom of heaven, 1. Explain.

II. The COMING OF THE BRIDEGROOM, 6-12.

A. It was announced, 6. Not shout of 1 Thess 4 but of 24:31 if you need at all to make it anything but part of the story.
B. It was heeded, 7. All awoke and prepared.
C. It separates real from false. 8-12. Lighted wicks but flickered and went out. Wise couldn't sell oil bec not dispensers of it. Only God saves. Vs 9 not mean or selfish but counsel of love. Prob time to go and still catch the procession. Those who go in are saved remnant of Israel for kgdom blessing. Bride already with Bridegroom so not church or part of it.

Jud 14:12--7 days of feast. Continuation of Rev 19:7. Earthly continuation. Door shut--no second chance. Yes, people saved during M, but not these people who had chance during trib. No indication they obtained oil, 7:23. I know you not--I have no relation to you.

III. THE CONCLUSION OF THE SAVIOUR, 13.

WATCH. (1) Be sure you're saved, 2 Pet 1:10. No outward diff between 10 virgins. All were serving Lord and were evidently students of prophecy. How? Word and experience. Stewart--"when you say your prayers you have kind of feeling God is hearing." You should see answers. In trib this will be very pertinent bec no doubt many will profess to escape horrors of time.
(2) As Xn watch. Note emphasis on forethought in watching. Doesn't mean dropping everything. Special application to Is in trib but equally true today. 1 Cor 16:13. Watch the planning of whole life in light of return of X and rewards. Watch the living of each day. Above all watch for Him. Are you expecting X? Tonight? Not sure this fair question, but is fair to say if you love Him will put no other plans or hopes before desire to see Him and worship Him forever. Not even highest ambitions for service for Father seeks worshippers, not workers primarily. If you're watching in this way, then whether understand teaching fully, you have the point of the parable of 10 virgins.

To Ladies

1. Nice ladies (good)
   All good - foolish not bad.
2. Religious ladies
   All made prof.
3. Unknowing (ignorant) women.
   a. Didn't realize ~~could not buy~~ someone else can't give sal
   b. " know Lord
4. Disappointed women
   All slept but Lord looks on Heart.

Watch

Bellevue 53

Bus. & Prof. Women
Camden