

Reading: Matthew 7:24-29

Topic: The Teaching of Jesus
On The Wise & The Fool

INTRODUCTION: We have studied in our previous classes about the _____ of wisdom and the differences between the _____ and the _____. Today we shall look at the teachings of Jesus concerning the two types of people and the consequences that come with being one or the other.

I. THE WISE & THE FOOLISH BUILDERS:

A. *Wise Builder:*

1. When one desires to construct any edifice, it is very _____ to first lay a proper foundation upon which to build upward the actual _____ that will be seen and used for its purpose.
2. The wise builder dug _____ into the ground until he found a solid _____ upon which to construct his house so that it would be able to withstand the _____ and storms that come. Lk. 6:48
3. The wise builder then constructed his beautiful _____ upon this solid foundation and when the storms did come, the _____ was able to withstand the onslaught of the elements. Mt. 7:25

B. *Foolish Builder:*

1. The foolish builder had only one thing in _____ and that was that he wanted to have a beautiful home like the wise builder, but he wanted to have his house _____ quickly.
2. The foolish builder did not bother to take the _____ to do all of that digging and hard work so he just took a shortcut and _____ the home directly upon the sand and it looked beautiful. Mt. 7:26
3. The home of the _____ looked just as good as the home of the _____ until the day of the storm and then the home of the _____ man was destroyed because it had no foundation. Mt. 7:27

C. *The Difference:*

1. Jesus made it clear that there was a basic _____ between the wise and foolish builder even though they both built similar _____ in the same region.
2. Both of the two people also heard the same instructions from the _____ of Jesus – the exact same _____ of God as it was taught.
3. Jesus made it very clear that the difference between the two men was that the _____ man listened to the Word of God and then put it into practice in his life, but the _____ man who also heard the same teaching did not put it into practice. Lk. 6:46-49
4. Wise people not only read and _____ the Word of God but they apply it and put it into practice in their own lives, while foolish people may read and _____ the very same Word of God but fail to apply it and put it into practice. James 1:22-25

II. THE WISE & THE FOOLISH BRIDEMAIDS:

A. *Wise Bridemaids:*

1. The custom of the Jewish _____ ceremony in certain areas was that the bridegroom would come with his attendants or friends late at night to the house of the _____ where she had her attendants waiting with their _____. When the signal was given that the groom and his attendants were

approaching, the bridesmaids would take their _____ and go to meet the groom's party and escort them back to the _____ of the waiting bride. Mt. 25:1,2

2. The wise bridesmaids took their lamps, but also brought a vessel of _____ along with them to fill the lamp if there was some _____ and the oil was used up while waiting. Mt. 25:4

B. Foolish Bridesmaids:

1. The foolish bridesmaids did everything that the wise bridesmaids did, including _____ their lamps with them and appearance wise there was no _____ between them.
2. The one thing that the foolish bridesmaids did not do was to bring a vessel to carry an extra _____ of _____ along with them. Mt. 25:3

C. The Coming Of The Bridegroom:

1. There was a _____ in the time of the arrival of the bridegroom and his attendants and all of the bridesmaids fell asleep while _____. Mt. 25:5
2. The watchman sounded the alarm at midnight and quickly the ten bridesmaids _____ up and made final preparations to go out and _____ the bridegroom's party including fixing the lamps. Mt. 25:6,7

D. The Difference Revealed:

1. Because of the delay of the coming of the bridegroom, the oil in the _____ of both the wise and the foolish bridesmaids had run low and it was now necessary to _____ the lamp with oil.
2. The wise had brought an extra supply of oil and they were equipped to replenish their _____ but the foolish had neglected to bring that supply of oil and now their _____ were gone out. Mt. 25:8
3. The foolish wanted to get oil from the wise but the oil could not be _____ for everyone needed to have their own personal _____. Mt. 25:9
4. The lesson here from Jesus is very clear. The _____ in the Scripture represents the Holy Spirit and it is necessary for each individual to be _____ with the Spirit of God and to keep filled through the daily prayer and praise time with the Lord Jesus. Eph. 5:18

III. Other References From Jesus:

A. The Rich Fool:

1. Jesus told the story of a very successful businessman who had a very successful _____, so much so that he was going to be able to take an _____ retirement. Lk. 12:16-19
2. Many would have thought this man to be intelligent, smart or lucky, but Jesus called him a _____ because he did everything right for his earthly life but did nothing about his _____. Lk. 12:20,21

B. The Wise Servant:

1. Jesus told another story of a man who delegated responsibility to his servant to guard and _____ for thieves who would want to break in and _____ and destroy the house. Mt. 24:42-44
2. The _____ servant was on guard and watching and when the master came back from his journey he found the faithful and _____ servant on duty and ready. Mt. 24:45-47

CONCLUSION: May God help us to get into the pathway of the _____ and to avoid the path of the _____. One will produce life and the other will lead to destruction so if we perhaps do lack wisdom, we can ask God for it. James 1:5