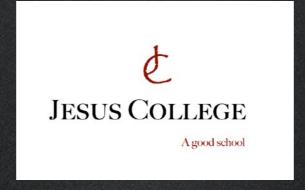
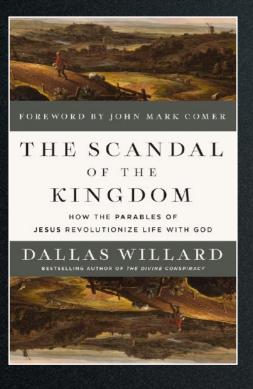


# WELCOME to a 15 week course THE SCANDAL OF THE KINGDOM by Dallas Willard

presented by







#### THE SCANDAL OF THE KINGDOM

Session 10 - "Prepare the Way"

Chapter 10 (p. 161-176)

Faithful & Unfaithful Servants Ten Virgins - "Be Ready"

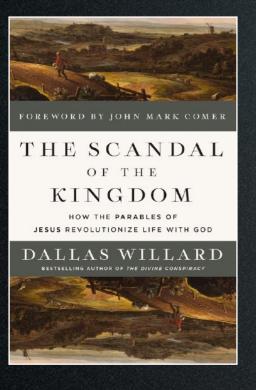
I - The Kingdom Removed from Israel Matthew 23:37-24:2

II - The Treasure in the Heart

Luke 12:31-34; 35-48

Matthew 24:45-51

III - Be Ready to Attend the Wedding Matthew 25:1-13



### Session 10 - "Prepare the Way"

I - The Kingdom Removed from Israel Matthew 23:37-24:2

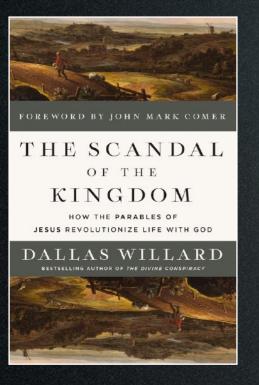
Jesus pivoting in His earthly ministry "O Jerusalem...How I longed to gather your children."

Worshipping in spirit and truth John 4:21, 24 not a temple nor Jesus in person.

The Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.

?) Why do buildings mean so much to us? Why is "church" a place not a people? What occupies our minds, draws our eyes?





### Session 10 - "Prepare the Way"

II - The Treasure in the Heart Luke 12:31-34; 35-48; Matthew 24:45-51 The Faithful & Unfaithful Servants

### What keeps our hearts?

Seek the Kingdom of God and all else will be added.

To joyfully anticipate and prepare for His return. Parables of Servants, Virgins, Talents reveal our heart and show how our actions demonstrate the degree to which Jesus is our treasure.

Ready & waiting or trying to stay out of trouble? (167-168)





#### Revelation of the Heart

People can do good things and appear to be very good, but when opportunity arises, they may do whatever it takes to get what they want, even if they have to sin to do so.

Character is not about what people do, but rather what they would or could do given the opportunity. The opportunity reveals where their heart has been aimed all along.

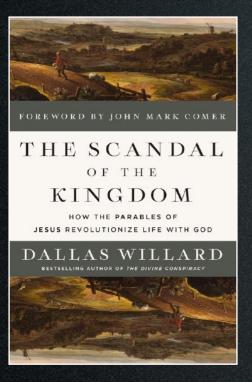
Dallas Willard
The Scandal of the Kingdom
(168)

"A thief is not just someone who steals.

A thief is someone who would steal
if the situation were right."

Dallas Willard "The Divine Conspiracy" lecture #7





### Session 10 - "Prepare the Way"

III - Be Ready to Attend the Wedding "Ten Virgins" Matthew 25:1-13

Servants, Virgins & Talents — "while the Lord is away." "Behold, the bridegroom is coming." v. 6

"Go buy your own oil." v. 9 Love is self-limiting

"Those who were ready." v. 10 Responsibility

"And the door was shut" v. 10



### FLASHBACK

### Session 8 - "Revolutionizing Leadership"

"By their fruits you will know them." Matthew 7:20

"That tree said it was an apple tree."

Not just calling Jesus Lord, but having Jesus as Lord. (124)

"I don't know you." Matthew 7:23 & 25:12

IN not OF? "Do we allow the Lord to know us?" (125)

"Are we a factor in His life?" (172)

An interactive life with God or only know about God?

Knowing and being known—

important realities in the with-God life. (125)



### "Watch therefore" Matthew 25:13

Watching = Alert readiness. (172)

"Watchman" - Psalm 127:1

Observe diligently and call out when attention is needed.

(173)

Jesus in Gethsemane "Watch with me." Mt. 26:38

Responsiveness & power was/is available. What is a spiritual discipline of watching? Willing spirit...weak body.

See The Spirit of the Disciplines, p. 151



## Ten Virgins and Sheeps & Goats Matthew 25 "Today is the day of salvation" 2 Corinthians 6:2

Salvation = Deliverance - a new order of life.

"He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of the Son he loves."

Colossians 1:13

Ready to seize the day by living IN and FROM a different world...even to the least. (173-174)

Often...

Our hearts are in the wrong places.

We are distracted.

Our lamps have gone out.

The "opportunity" comes and goes.

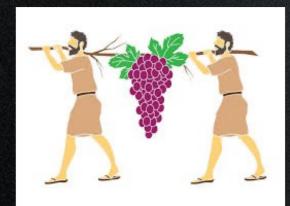
The door is shut. We miss the Kingdom. v. 34, 41

### Carpe Diem — Carpe Deum

"Repent, the Kingdom of God is at hand." Matthew 4:17

The Kingdom of God is here. The King is coming, but the Kingdom is also here. The opportunities are now. (175)

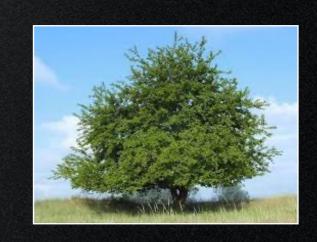
Joshua & Caleb - "Yes, Now!" Other Ten - "No, never!"



Land of fruit and milk & honey

Numbers 13

David's Army vs. the Philistines Listen to the wind in the trees! I Chronicles 14:15



### Children of the Light are Ready

It is God's intent that the disciples of Christ should be, in Him, the light of the world, and should teach all people what the Kingdom of God is and how to live in it now. (176)

John 7:38, "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water'."

We notice who God notices!
We are an outpost of heaven,
where the angels of grace come and go.

## Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



### Summary of Session 10 "Ready"

In union with God, we accomplish great things, watching for the opportunities where we give our best, secure in the confidence that He who appointed us will also give His best. (176)





### Meditation — Matthew 25:1-13

### **Application**

VISION - What does "ready for Jesus" look like for me today?

INTENTION - Am I ready as a faithful steward for the return of Jesus?

MEANS - How will I practice watching this week? Mt. 25:13



† Cross Fit



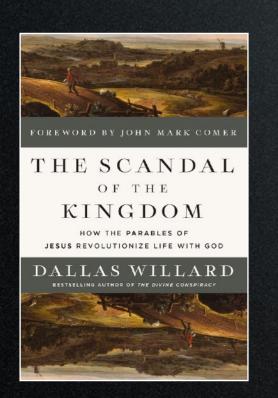
### An audio teaching by Dallas to complement Session 10

1.) "The Parabolic Teaching About Christ's Kingdom by Christ Himself" (audio)

#8: Ten Virgins and the Evil Watchman.

Revelation of the Heart [42:41]

### Next Week - Session 11



"The Miracle of Forgiveness" Chapter 11 (177-190)

> "The Unforgiving Servant" Matthew 18:21-35

Are we ready to act with the Lord? Are we watchful. Are we prayerful? Are we alert? Or do we have something more important to do?

"Lord, we pray that you will teach us how to do that in our homes and at our work, as we drive along in our automobiles, as we sleep and as we watch television and everything we do, we pray that you will keep us with the inward ear and the inward eye always open to see your going in the tops of the mulberry trees, or to hear your coming. Make us alert. May there not be a single thing which we would be unprepared to drop if you were to come right now. And we would be happy if you would. Keep us ready.

We pray in your name. Amen."

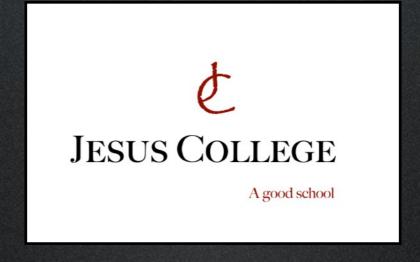
Closing Prayer by Dallas #8: "Ten Virgins and the Evil Watchman"

As a "Kingdom first responder" in the next 10,000 minutes assigned to your heavenly outpost, may you be ready in mind, heart, body and soul to do your best in the small opportunities while mindful and hopeful the Bridegroom could return today!



Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns "A Student of the Superior Benefactor"

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs "Training to be proficient in willing the good"



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