

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Lesson #159

Text: Matthew 25

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

⁴¹ "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

⁴⁴ "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:31-46

1. The judgment of the nations
2. The Judge would be the Lord Jesus, the Son of Man sitting on His throne of glory

3. He would be accompanied by all His holy angels

THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS

1. They are separated

- a) The sheep on His right hand
- b) The goats on His left hand

2. The Judgment meted out to the sheep

³⁴ "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

Matthew 25:34-36

- a) Blessed of My Father
- b) Inherit the kingdom
- c) This was prepared from the foundation of the world
- d) Reasons were given (Matthew 25:35-36)

3. The Judgment meted out to the goats

⁴² For I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

Matthew 25:42-43

- a) Depart from Me
- b) You cursed (ones)
- c) Into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels
- d) Reasons were given (Matthew 25:42-43)

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

1. Compassion and concern for those who have so little in life
2. Consciousness of what they lack and what we have
3. The deeds that we do:
 - a) They reflect genuine faith in the Lord Jesus
 - b) They show that we are true followers of the Lord
 - c) The Lord showed great compassion:
 - i) To the sick
 - ii) To the sorrowful
 - iii) To the broken-hearted
 - d) All true followers are expected to care for others as the Lord did