WATCH Mt 25:1-13

Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

- Seems like the Power to Do what God would have us do are Words of Law!
- "You better watch out!"
- Power seems to come from the Wrath of God.

Amos - Woe to you who desire the name of the Lord.

It doesn't even do you any good to desire.

- It's going to be a Great Disappointment
- It's going to be the Threat of the Wrath of God brought to fulfillment

Sounds as if We could frame People into Heaven to people who are otherwise destined for hell.

1 Thess 4:13:18 Power come from here - Jesus died & rose again - Even so c̄ Jesus God will bring c̄ Him those who have fallen asleep.

Two disciples on way to Emmaus: "We had hoped that He would be the One that would redeem Israel."

Our faith says: We do Hope! We are Hoping! By the Grace of God we will continue to Hope! When the Rain & P will return again & take us c̄ Him into the Heavenly Joys / when for what we

now Hope will be the certainty of possession
- So then, Be Ready!

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10 Bridesmaids = the 10 Lamps
- 5 foolish / 5 wise
- Ran out of oil / Ready = oil when Bridegroom ca
- Only Wise = Oil went into banquet.
- Parable says, Be Ready! Be Watchful! Be Prepared!
- Parable doesn't tell us what <u>watchfulness</u> really is.
- Says that Watchfulness is something we ought to have! We must be wise!
- As we wait for the Bridegroom, what exactly is this thing that is required of us?
- Mt 24

Graphic Paragraphs: People living their unconcerned lives in Noah's Day. - Eating & Drinking; marrying & being given in marriage; pictures of men farming & women baking - without any recognition of the impending end.
- a householder sleeping when the thief breaks in to steal
- a careless servant caught carousing on his job when the master returns
- a servant too dim-witted to bank the one talent he had, for fear that he would lose it & that he would get some kind of a reprimand / punishment when his

Next Week

Hard master returned
- Pictures screaming at us: Be Ready! Be Wise! Be Prepared! Watch!
- What is that? What does that mean?
.... all these pictures are leading up to that one final / Great Paragraph at the end of Ch. 25 — the Vision of Jesus at the End of the World & all the Nations gathered before Him as sheep & as goats.
- What's the Gospel for X the King!
.... Amos Prophesy ch 5
- Complaint about people who think they are ready!
- People who imagine it is only other people who are unprepared & foolish
People who assume that the Great & Coming Day of the Lord will be Light for us
Sweetness & Light — For us!
- But other people are going to have to experience it as darkness / as Gloom with no brightness in it!
- Amos speaks about traditional acts of piety & spiritual wisdom
- talks about Feasts, solemn assemblies burnt offerings, cereal offerings, songs & melody of harps
- Instead of that the prophet says "Let justice roll down like waters & righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Justice / Righteousness is the central theme of the teaching of Jesus in Mt's Gospel.

- In Mt's Gospel Righteousness is both a Gift of God and a Vocation
- It means God's Laying Healing Hands on the Universe & give us the Gift of all-rightness
- That's what righteousness is:

  The Gift of All Rightness.
- It is also God calling us who have received that Gift to live lives of Righteousness / All Rightness.
- God is Steadfast Love as Ps 63 says
- Therefore a Life of Love / a Life of All-Rightness is the appropriate All rightness.