The Judgment Day Parables
Matt. 25:1-46
Introduction:
A. Do you know how many people have ever lived? Or how many people that will yet live? If so, then you know how many people will be gathered before the Lord on the Day of Judgment. The text says "before him shall be gathered all nations" (v. 32).
B. The Lord spoke the parables of Matthew 25 to prepare us for the assembly of that Great Day (24:42, 44, 50-51). Let us look at the three comparisons the Lord makes in chapter and the lessons to be gained:
Discussion:

I. The Ten Virgins Tell Us That We must Be Prepared.
   A. Because the time of the Lord's return is uncertain (v. 13).
   B. Because there will be no time to prepare then (vv. 11-12).
   C. Because only the prepared are saved (v. 10).
   D. Because no one can prepare for us (v. 8, 9)

II. The Talents Tell Us That We must Be Productive.
   A. We must produce proportionately (v. 15-23).
   B. We cannot be content to "hold our own." (24-30).

III. The Sheep and Goats Tell Us That We must Be Right.
   A. All humanity separated into two groups – sheep and goats (v. 32).
     1. No other classifications for anyone – either a sheep or a goat.
     2. No "kind of sheep" or "kind of goats" – just sheep and goats.
     3. The sheep are His – His good and faithful servants (v. 21, 23).
     4. All others are goats and will be lost, hence we must be right to go to heaven.
   B. The Bible is plain as to who are His sheep or His servants – the saved, the church (cf. Acts 2:47).
     1. Initially saved when we hear, believe, repent and are baptized (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38).
     2. Continually saved by:
       a. Faithful service (vv. 34-46; cf. Phil. 2:12; Rev. 2:10).
       b. Repetitive forgiveness (1 John 1:7-9).

Conclusion
A. The judgment day is coming. How prepared are you? How productive are you? Are you among His
sheep or the goats?
B. There is still time to prepare. There is still time to become productive. There is still time to get among His sheep.

Another Sermon by Edward O. Bragwell, Sr.