Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- God Is A God Of Order
- He Has A Plan And That Plan Will Go Forth
- He Has A Place Of Wisdom, Knowledge, Truth For Those Who Will Seek It
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- God Uses Patterns, Types and Numbers To Demonstrate His Precise Detail

- The Patterns Of Life Can Be Seen In His Creation
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• The Order Of The Feasts Of The Lord

• Seven Important Feasts
  ▫ Set Apart As Holy Observances
  ▫ To Be Remembered

• A Past And A Future Element Revealing God’s Ways And God’s Plan
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• **God Gave The Feasts In The Spring, Summer And Fall Of The Year – Always In The Same Order**

• **The Feasts Given In The Old Testament – Have A Revealing And Fulfillment In The New Testament**
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• **The Spring Feasts** – *Passover, Unleavened Bread, And First Fruits* Reveal The Gospel

• **The Gospel** = Death, Burial, *and* Resurrection Of Christ

• The Summer Feast is *Pentecost* – It Reveals The Church -- *The Birthday Of The Church*
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• *Spring And Summer Have Already Come* -- *We Are Now Waiting For The Fall Feasts*
  - *Feast of Trumpets*
  - *Atonement*
  - *Tabernacles*
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• **The Feast Of Trumpets:**

• **The Trumpet Was Used...**
  ▫ *To Announce Feasts*
  ▫ *To Bring People To A Time Of Assembly*

• **The Holiday Begins At Sundown Tonight**
  ▫ *It is a Celebration Of The Jewish New Year*
  ▫ *Rosh Hashanah*
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- In The Near Future The Trumpet Call Of God Will Ring Out And The Dead Will Be Raised
  - The Church Will Be Called To Assembly
- The Feast of Trumpets (Rapture) Is The Next Feast To Be Fulfilled
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- **The Day of Atonement is 7 Days After Trumpets**
  - Called: Yom Kippur
  - It Will Be Fulfilled In The Future By The 7 Years Of Tribulation

- **Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) – Looks Ahead**
  - A Time When God Will Dwell With His People
  - To Be Fulfilled in The Millennium
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• These Events & Feasts Are Not Random -- They Happen According To A Plan And An Order
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- We Should Not Be Caught Unaware Of What The Future Holds
- God’s Patterns And Plans Have Been Revealed
- How Can We Be Ready For The Future?
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- (Mat 25:1-13 NIV) "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. (2) Five of them were foolish and five were wise. (3) The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. (4) The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps."
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- (5) The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. (6) "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (7) "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. (8) The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' (9) "'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

(10) "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. (11) "Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!' (12) "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' (13) "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• The Bridegroom Is Christ
• The Five Wise Virgins Are Genuine Believers
• The Five Foolish Virgins Are False Believers
• The Lamps Represent Lives of the Waiting
• The Oil Is Holy Spirit In The Lives Of Believers
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• ‘At That Time’ = The Time That Surrounds His Returning
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• Marriage Is An Intimate Relationship
  ▫ Between A Man And A Woman
  ▫ It Is Life-Long
  ▫ Two Become One
  ▫ An Intimate And Productive Union Of Living

• It Is Symbolic Of The Relationship Between A Believer And The Lord (John 14:20)
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• The Church Is Called The ‘Bride Of Christ’

• We Are Waiting For Him To Return And Take Us To Be With Him Forever In Glory.
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• A Jewish Wedding Was Not Like Weddings Today. They Were Common In Custom Among The People Of Jesus’ Day
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

HOW A MAN GOT A BRIDE IN BIBLE DAYS

- A type of Christ and His Church
- The man would make offer to purchase his bride
- Marriage contract would be given to the Bride.
- When the bride accepted and received the purchase price, she would be formally betrothed or espoused. (ENGAGED)
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• The Groom goes to his father’s house to prepare for his new bride.

• The bride-to-be would prepare herself for his sudden return.

• Only the father of the groom would know the date of the wedding.

• The woman would light an oil lamp for the groom each night.
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• Father decides that it is time, sends his son to get his bride and prepare for the ceremony.

• The wedding ceremony would take place.

• The couple would enter the bridal chamber and have a seven-day honeymoon.

• At the end of the seven-day honeymoon, the couple would go to their new home.
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- What Is Acceptable And Advisable In Our Time Of Waiting For The Bridegroom To Return?

- Mat 25:2 (NIV) "Five of them were foolish and five were wise."

- They All Thought They Were Ready But Jesus Taught That Only Half Of Them Were Ready
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

It's Not What You Think - It Is What He Thinks

- It Is Not Our Standard That Matters -- It Is God's Standard That Counts

FOOLISH THINKING:

- “It Will Be Different For Me”
- "He'll Make Concessions For Me"
- “I Am A Good Person”
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

- (John 3:36 NIV) Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

- He Has Already Given Us His Will On This Matter! He Said You Must Be Born Again. It Is The Only Way To Be Ready!
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

An Oil Lamp Without Oil Is Useless

• (Mat 25:3-4 NIV) The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. (4) The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• You Were Created With A Purpose
  ▫ To Have Fellowship With God
  ▫ To Build A Relationship With God
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

It's Only The Wise Who Are Ready

• (Mat 25:5 NIV) The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

• (Mat 25:10 NIV) "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut."
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• Wisdom Is -- Learning To Think Ahead

• Wisdom Is -- Being Prepared

• (Heb 10:25 NIV) Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

• You Won’t Get In If You Are Not Prepared

• You Won’t Get In On Someone Else's Oil

• If You Wait Until The Celebration Starts
  It Will Be Too Late

• *Heed The Call Of The Spirit Today -- Be Ready*
We Know He Loves Us By What He Has Declared To Us!
- The promises in God’s Word are Loving declarations to us:
  - “I Go And Prepare A Place For You, I Will Come Again And Receive You To Myself”
  - “He Who Believes In Me Has Everlasting Life”
  - “Come To Me That You May Have Life”
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

The Saddest Phrase In The Gospel:

“I Don't Know You”

• (Mat 25:13 NIV) "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."
Is There Oil In Your Lamp?

The Lord Is Coming For His Bride

• Are You Ready?
• Are You Waiting?
• Are You Preparing?
• Is Your Lamp Filled With Oil?