

"Personality Of A Lost Man"

TEXT: Matthew 25:1-13

SOURCE: From The Sermon File Of: Larry L. Schoonover

INTRODUCTION:

Clearly the "foolish" are representative of the lost - those without Jesus as their savior (v2)

This parable gives some insight into the personality of a lost man. ALL are "fools" who depart this life without Jesus! They are described as foolish because we see that some are....

I. GAMBLERS (v3-9)

1. Gambling is always a foolish endeavor
 - a. [Illustration]
I have witnessed men lose a whole week's pay gambling on a single bet placed
 - b. [Illustration]
Work hard and save all year long just to spend it in Las Vegas in a weekend of gambling - and then call it "entertainment"
 - c. Question - who would board a plane with a 50% chance of safe arrival? No one would!
 - i. Certainly, gambling is very, very, foolish!
2. These five women gamble with the ultimate - their souls! This is foolish!
 - a. They knew the groom was coming
 - b. They knew the requirements of joining in the parade and celebration at the groom's home
 - i. Explain in detail the requirements
 - c. Yet, they gambled on 2 things:
 - i. They wouldn't be caught unprepared
 - ii. Someone would share their oil with them

* Question - Just what is worth gambling your soul over?

II. RAMBLERS (v10)

Have you ever known a " Rambler"? Someone who is:

- a. Unsettled

- b. Uncommitted
 - c. Uninvolved
 - d. Always "fooling around" without any sense of direction
1. A "rambler" is one who squanders or wastes opportunity!
 - a. Lost opportunity because
 - i. They were not where they know they should be - off elsewhere
 - ii. They did not have what they know they should have - off acquiring it
 - iii. They were not attentive to what they should be focused on - diverted elsewhere
 2. Jesus warns "ramblers" about lost opportunity
 - a. (Luke 14:16-24)

III. SCRAMBLERS (v11-13)

1. [Illustration]

One of my greatest faults is that I've always been a "scrambler". My philosophy has been "if it's not overdue then it's not due." I can remember...

 - a. Scrambling - on the school bus to get my homework done before arriving at school
 - b. The problem with that was - sometimes it worked, sometimes it failed!
2. Warning - there are some things for which being late is to be too late!
 - a. Chest pains / heart condition
 - b. Cancer
 - c. Income tax
 - Ignore any of these and you are in serious trouble!
3. There are two things for you to consider here; to be late in either is to be too late.
 - a. Too late to live your life for Jesus
 - i. [Illustration]

Testimony of aged men and of their great sorrow for not living for Jesus in their youth. They shed tears over "wasted years"
 - b. Too late to be saved
 - i. [Illustration] - Rich man (Luke 16:19-31)

4. Personally, I settled this question a long time ago! No doubt, there will be a lot of "scrambling" when Jesus comes again - but to no avail!
 - a. The church house will be full the day after Jesus comes but it will do them no good!
 - i. Please be ready!
 - ii. (v36-42)
 - iii. (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

You get prepared by doing what the Apostle Paul instructs:
(Romans 10:8-10, 13)

CONCLUSION:

There are basically 2 types of people:

1. Wise (saved) - trusted Jesus
2. Foolish (lost) - refused Jesus

The type of person you are is strictly your choice!

I beg of you today:

- Don't "gamble" with your soul!
- Don't "ramble" around trying this or that or putting off what you know is right - choose Jesus today!
- Don't think you can fool around and then do a "last minute scramble" - to be late when Jesus comes is to be too late!