

## **“I’d Finish The Game”**

A group of men were playing ball when one had a sobering thought. “What would you do,” he asked, “if you suddenly realized that this would be your last day on earth?” There were several different answers to the question. Some would rush immediately to the church building and pray (cf. 2 Kings 20:21, Hezekiah); some would rush to those they had wronged and make wrongs right; others would run to spend as much time as possible with their family. But one man thought seriously for a moment and said, “I think I would just finish the game.”

This is the attitude of the faithful Christian. Since the time of Christ’s second coming is uncertain, we are instructed to be ready all the time (Matthew 24:44). Jesus taught the parable of the ten virgins to teach the importance of preparation before it is too late. Five were wise because they brought enough oil in their lamps to meet the bridegroom, while five were foolish and did not bring enough oil (Matthew 25:1-13; cf. John 9:4; Philippians 4:5; James 5:9).

How does one prepare himself for Christ’s return? First, one must be in Christ where all spiritual blessings are found (Ephesians 1:3). We get into Christ when our faith leads to repentance, confessing Christ as God’s Son, and baptism (Galatians 3:26-27). Second, one must continue faithfully in Christ, and be found in Him at His coming (Philippians 3:9). Millions are more concerned about worldly pleasures, social and financial standing, and impressing others, but what are these when the end comes? Do not wait until it is too late to think about God and the return of His Son, Jesus!

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