

Pastor Ron Case
10/21/12

“Strategic Reserves” (1)

*“Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man’s dwelling, but a foolish man devours it.”
(Proverbs 21:20)*

The Day of Delay & Drowsiness

Matthew 25:1-13 – (1) “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. (2) Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. (3) For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, (4) but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. (5) As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. (6) But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ (7) Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. (8) And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ (9) But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ (10) And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. (11) Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ (12) But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ (13) Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Key Point: The Foolish Fail to Factor in Future Fatigue

Response:

Avoid the Idiot Convention

“‘Come,’ each one cries, ‘let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even far better.’”
(Isaiah 56:12 *NIV*)

Ante Up

“Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest. How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.” (Proverbs 6:6-11)

Adhere to God's Advice

“I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see...He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” (Revelation 3:18, 22)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I choosing to prioritize God now, or do I put him off?

(Matt. 6:33; Heb. 2:1-2; Hosea 10:12; Is. 55:6)

Is the future guaranteed to be like the present/past? (2 Peter 3:3-11)