Address 13800 S. 4080 Rd on Hwy 169 South of Oologah P.O. Box 527 Oologah, OK 74053 (918) 443-2025

www.oologahcofc.org okchurchofchrist@gmail.com

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**Service Times** 

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.

Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Sonshiners: 4:45pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Where were you? (**Job 38:1-4**)

PM Sermon (7pm)

Who is my brother and my mother?

Sunday AM Bible Class:

Nehemiah – R. Earl

Wednesday Bible Class:

Nahum

The Gospel of Christ TV Program

on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53 **BibleWayMediaMedia.org** 

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Daily podcasts available on our website & mobile app

The Oologah church of Christ only uses the **KJV**, **NKJV** or **ASV** translation of the Bible in classes & sermons.

## The Oologah Informer September 20<sup>th</sup>

Thoughts from the Preacher "I'll never forget what they said"

Have you ever heard that phrase or said it yourself? Words are powerful.

Words can break the spirit of a person (Pro 17:22). Words can also lift a person up (Pro 12:25) and the right word can save (Ps 119:105).

How are you using your words?

## DON'T WAIT TOO LONG!

By Toney L. Smith

"Why do you wait, dear brother, O, why do you tarry so long? Your Savior is waiting to give you a place in His sanctified throng. Why not, why not, why not come to Him now?"

How many times down through the years have we heard someone say, "One day I am going to obey the gospel" or "I know I need to repent, and one day I am going to do that." However, I am sad to say that a great number of those never found the time to make themselves right with God. They waited too long!

Matthew 25:1-13 records the sad example of five virgins that waited too long. Jesus identified these five women as "foolish." Why were they called foolish?

- 1. They knew the Bridegroom was coming. And they "went forth" to meet Him. Yet, they had not prepared for the event (Matthew 25:1). Scripture tells us their lamps had gone out. They had neglected to fill their lamps with oil. Today, there are many whose light has gone out because they have not filled themselves with that which produces light (Psalms 119:105). Those without the light are destined to stumble in darkness (John 11:10). We cannot "let our lights shine before others" (Matthew 5:16) if we do not have the light.
- 2. "While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept" (Matthew 25:5). Thayer's Greek Definitions tells us the word slumbered means "fall asleep; to be negligent, careless; to linger or delay." Paul speaks of the danger of sleeping, "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thessalonians 5:5-6). Our lamps must not be out when our Lord returns!
- 3. The Bridegroom came when the foolish virgins were not ready. They had neglected opportunities that would allow them to be ready at all times. Far too many have planned for a tomorrow that never came! Many are living as if they can control a day they do not have! Inspiration tells us that eternal life requires readiness. James 4:13-14 "Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city,

and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." I wonder just how many have stepped into eternity, still making plans for what they would do tomorrow!

4. These foolish virgins learned that it is possible to wait too long. The Lord's admonition, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 25:13). The five "wise virgins" were prepared for the Bridegroom's coming. They were looking forward to the Lord's return "... they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut." Do we anticipate His return? When will that return be? We do not know. Not even Jesus knows when the time will come, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only" (Matthew 24:36). Which are we - WISE OR FOOLISH?

It is immeasurably sad to know that some of our friends and loved ones know the truth but keep putting off obedience to that truth. Some say, "I will be baptized someday." Others have obeyed the gospel in days gone by, but have become unfaithful. They are saying, "I know I need to repent, and one day I will. Just you wait and see." We all know of some who WAITED TOO LONG! The sadness connected with this situation is far too painful to put into words.

"Why do you wait, dear brother, the harvest is passing away; Your Savior is waiting to bless you: There's danger and death in delay!"