

**Subject:** Daily Prayer 28th August 2020  
**From:** Vicky Pacey <vickyreadersapp@gmail.com>  
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**To:** Vicky Pacey <vickyreadersapp@gmail.com>  
**BCC:** kjgreenall@gmail.com

Good morning everyone

As is our normal practice let us be still and quiet for a few moments before we begin.....

Blessed are you Lord God, for you have made us for yourself and for your love.  
We seek your presence and desire to give our lives and our love to you.  
Blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
AMEN

### **Psalm 33:6-12**

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,  
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.  
He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;  
he put the deeps in storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the LORD;  
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.  
For he spoke, and it came to be;  
he commanded, and it stood firm.

The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.  
The counsel of the LORD stands for ever,  
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.  
Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

### **Matthew 25:1-13**

#### **The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids**

‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not

be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

## **Reflection**

This gospel helps us to focus on the here and now. It helps us to learn to live totally in the present, to seek and find God there. If we can do that, then all the rest will take care of itself. Whether the Groom arrives early or late, it will not matter as he has been constantly part of our everyday lives. Let us try to renew our commitment to God and to building and growing our relationship with God through regular prayer and reflection.

Here Jesus gives us a picture of Jewish wedding customs in his time. The groom would take the bride from her father’s house to his own, but only when all negotiations had been completed: hence the delay in this case. A servant would alert the groom’s household that the couple were on their way. The foolish bridesmaids had to go off to find oil, so they were too late to welcome the couple. The moral of the story: Look beyond the present moment, and try to discover the call of God even in the smallest things of life. AMEN

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. AMEN

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
In the name of Christ. AMEN

Blessings and love  
Vicky xx