

“The Summer Is Ended. . .”

by Wayne Goff

“The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!” — Jeremiah 8:20

One of the wailings of the weeping prophet Jeremiah was that the people of Judah *had passed up their opportunity to be saved!* Summer was the time to gather produce for the coming year (Prov. 10:5). The slothful person slept in harvest and went hungry in the winter because he did not *foresee and prepare!*

The parable of the ten virgins (Matt. 25:1-12) is also a lesson about *looking ahead and preparing* for the future.

The Jews of Jesus' day were *not prepared for His coming*. He bemoaned the fact that they did not prepare for the opportunity, and as a result Jerusalem would be destroyed by the Romans! *“And level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation”* (Lk. 19:44). It was a national tragedy which had permanent ramifications.

So many are doing **absolutely nothing** to prepare themselves for eternity. Many will go into the judgment through **the wide gate** of destruction (Matt. 7:13)! There is nothing anyone can do to deter them from following the crowd. Even Jesus knew this would be the case.

Dear reader, make no mistake about it. **Today is your “summer” of opportunity.** You only go around once in life, so prepare yourselves for meeting your Maker! The rich man (Luke 16:20-31) had to recall that in his *“lifetime”* he received his good things (v. 25), but never again! In the grave, we will have all eternity to reflect back upon our lives of opportunity.

The new school year is upon us, vacation time is over, and the needed routine of our lives has begun again. Fortunately for you and me, the *“summer”* of opportunity is not gone yet! But do not delay, obey your Creator while you have time and opportunity. **“Now”** is always the right time to obey (2 Cor. 6:2). Take stock of your spiritual condition today!

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