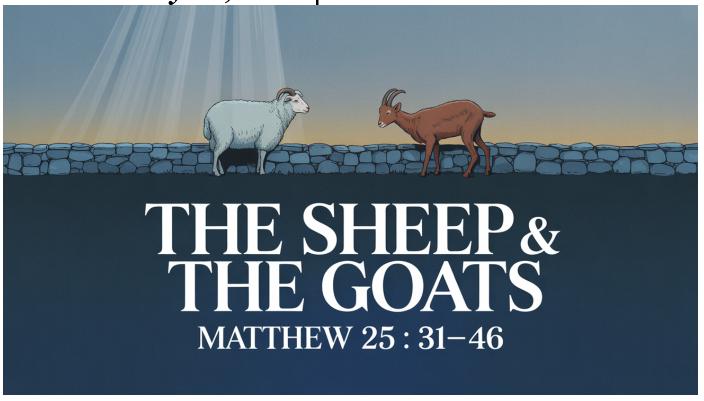
# The Sheep & the Goats

July 20, 2025 | Matthew 25:31-46



# **Observation:** What is happening here?

- Context Matthew 25 contains three parables:
  - **Ten Virgins**: Preparation for the King
  - Talents: Stewarding what God has given
  - Sheep & The Goats: The Return of the King
- v 31 The Son of Man arrives in glory with His angels.
- vv 32–33 All nations are gathered.
  - like a shepherd, He separates the sheep on the right and the goats on the left: *Ezekiel 34:11-17*
- vv 34–40 The King commends the righteous for showing compassion. They are surprised that their ordinary acts of compassion reached the King.
- vv 41–45 Those on the left do not show mercy and are condemned; they are surprised that their neglect mattered.
- v 46 Two everlasting destinies are sealed: eternal punishment or eternal life.

**Ontario Community Church:** Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ. John 6:47 (ESV) "*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life*"

# **Interpretation:** What can we learn?

## Ready the Way. Be a Steward

- Respond to Christ by living life prepared for the bridegrooms return, steward all you loving God and loving others.
- Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 3:13-15; Matthew 24:44

#### **From Grace Comes Works**

- Salvation is by grace alone. From Faith, comes action.
- Our action is our fruit. This fruit is evidence of our faith in Him!
- Scripture: Ephesians 2:8-10; James 2:14-17, 1 John 3:17-18

#### Christ is there for the least

- Serve God by serving others, never ignoring the least of these.
- Christ is there for the sick, the misfits, & his invitation is for all.
- Scripture: Proverbs 19:17; Hebrews 13:2; Matthew 25:40-45

# **Application:** How should we live?

## Respond Now: Seize the "Day of Salvation"

- No one knows the day or hour of the return of the King.
- What matters is your response to Christ's call
- Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 3:13-15; Matthew 24:44

## Practice Stewardship: Time Talents, Treasure, Testimony

- Consider what God has given to you. How will you use it?
- Christ will return and settle accounts.
- Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30; Ephesians 5:15-17; 1 Peter 4:10

## Witness Through Action: Words and Deeds

- Look over the six mercies (feeding, giving drink, welcoming, clothing, caring and visiting) as examples to serve others.
- Scripture: *Matthew 25:35-40; Isaiah 58:6-10; Colossians 3:17*