

FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE

Matthew 25:31-46

Key Verse: 25:40

1. Review the 4 parables about the coming of the Son of Man in 24:42-25:30. What does each tell us about how we should prepare for Jesus' coming?
2. Read verses 31-33. In this parable, how is the coming of the Son of Man described? What will he do? How is the universality of this final judgment expressed? What two kinds of people are there?
3. Read verses 34-36. What does the King say to the sheep on his right hand? What is their inheritance? Why are they so blessed?
4. Read verses 37-40. What questions did they ask the King? What truth does he reveal to them? What shows that their inner lives have been changed? What does this teach us about how Jesus sees people?
5. Read verses 41-46. What is the sad news the King tells those on his left—the goats? Why must they depart? Why were they cursed? Why didn't they even know what they had failed to do? What reveals their unchanged hearts—their selfishness?
6. Who are "the least of these?" How must we see them? How can we have eyes to see opportunities for serving Jesus? How can we have the mind of Christ? How can our inner lives be changed so that we can be among the sheep when we meet the Son of Man?