The Waiting Maidens — Jesus is picturing what?

watch — our ignorance of the time —
"unreadiness" —

The sleep of all the virgins —
no blame is hinted —
The midnight cry — unexpectedness —
no time for delayed preparation
Foolish indeed to delay "
Hopelessness of their plight —
The wise within — The foolish without —
"Ready" — His own divine life in them —
It means exclusion —
Huddled together at the door —
neglect was irremediable —

"Dying Lamps" — "Our lamps are going out"
Solemn & impressive picture —
alarm & fear in the words —
"catastrophe threatens"

Extinction is brought about simply by
doing nothing — did not {stray into forbidden ways
No positive sins — asleep —
neglect — negligence —
heedlessness —
unaware that light was going out —
nobody more surprised than they —
Readiness is the condition of entrance —
To delay is madness —
individuality of each soul — its unshareable personal responsibility