

Luke 12:35-59 - Are You Ready for His 2nd Coming?

Luke 12:35-59 KJV Let your **loins be girded** about, and your **lights burning**; (36) And ye yourselves like unto men that **wait** for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. (37) Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find **watching**: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. (38) And if he shall come in **the second watch**, or come in **the third watch**, and find them so, blessed are those servants. (39) And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. (40) Be ye therefore ready also: **for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not**.

KEY: "The Son of man cometh *at an hour when ye think not*"

He IS coming back - We just don't know when

<http://www.bible.ca/pre-date-setters.htm>

- There have been 242 dates predicted for the end of the world
 - (first in the year 44)
 - (most recent - Mayan calendar - Dec 22, 2012)

Two extremes

- It is futile to try to predict and set dates
- others say "my Lord delays His coming" and fail to be prepared (vs 45)
- Our focus according to Jesus is to BE READY
 - 2nd watch - 9:00PM - midnight
 - 3rd watch - midnight - 3:00AM
 - If you knew the time a thief was coming - you would be prepared
- Blessed is the servant who is ready and watching
 - vs (37) vs (38) & vs (43)

Jesus Calls Us to Be Prepared

Loins Girded --- Lights Burning --- Watching & Waiting (expectancy)

1) Loins Girded - the influence of the Word of God in my life

"To gird up the loins, is a phrase related to the mode of dress in ancient times. The loose fitting robe was pulled up and tucked into the belt or girdle to provide greater freedom when men ran, or labored, or engaged in conflict" (Barnes' Bible Commentary).

- Loins were girded To **Serve** (Luke 17:8);
- To **Travel** (Ex 12:11) or **Run** (2 Kings 4:29)
- To Prepare for action or conflict (Job 40:7) and (Jeremiah 1:17)

- Eph 6:14 KJV Stand therefore, **having your loins girt about with truth**, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

Survey of Bible Reading

<http://poncefoundation.com/project/christians-dont-read-their-bible/>

- 82% of Christian Americans only read their bibles Sundays in church
- Only 22% of them believe the Bible is fully inspired by God
- Over 1 in 4 American Christians believe the bible to be a book written by mere men, not at all the word of God

1. Am I reading it?
2. Am I learning it?
3. But more importantly **Am I beginning to make decisions in my life based upon what it says**

- 1Jn 2:4 NIV Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person.
- 2Ti 3:16-17 KJV All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

2) Lights Burning - the influence of the Holy Spirit in my life

In the story of the 10 virgins Matt 25:3-8 - all had lamps, but only 5 wise took oil - the others were foolish and said to the wise "Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out"

Oil symbolic of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:38 - Jesus anointed with the Holy Spirit) & (1 John 2:20 & 27 - the anointing we received teaches us)

- 1 Thessalonians 5:19 KJV (19) Quench not the Spirit.
- Ephesians 5:18 KJV but be filled with the Spirit;
- Ephesians 4:30 KJV And grieve not the holy Spirit of God,
- Galatians 5:25 KJV If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
- Galatians 5:22 KJV But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

3) Watching & Waiting - has to do with being awake & alert - as from collecting one's faculties - WAIT - to stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy)

- 1Pe 4:7 KJV But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.
- Revelation 3:1-3 KJV And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. (2) **Be watchful**, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. (3) Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. **If therefore thou shalt not watch**, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Jesus Calls Us to Stewardship and Accountability

(41) Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all? (42) And the Lord said, Who then is that **faithful and wise steward**, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? (43) Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. (44) Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. (45) But and if that servant say in his heart, **My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;** (46) The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. (47) And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. (48) But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. **For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required:** and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Blessed is the servant who is the faithful and wise steward

KEY: To Whom Much is Given - Much is Required

“My Lord Delays His Coming” attitude affected his stewardship

2Pe 3:3-4 KJV Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

Mistreatment of others

- Beats menservants and maidservants
 - bite and devour one another

Taking for yourself what God has meant for others

- Eats drinks and is drunken - this food was meant for others

There is Accountability (remember the parable of the talents)

- Is cut in sunder (to disunite in any manner -probably means he severed the relationship - he is no longer going to be the steward in charge)
- Is given his portion with the unbelievers (42-give them a portion of meat)

Not sure what this means - but I don't want it - so I want to be a faithful steward

- Knew but did not prepare = many stripes
- Knew not, but did things worthy of stripes = few stripes

Jesus Calls Us to Commitment

(49) I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? (50) But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! (51) Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: (52) For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. (53) The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father;

the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. (54) And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. (55) And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. (56) Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but **how is it that ye do not discern this time?** (57) Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right? (58) **When thou goest with thine adversary to the magistrate, as thou art in the way, give diligence that thou mayest be delivered from him;** lest he hale thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and the officer cast thee into prison. (59) I tell thee, thou shalt not depart thence, till thou hast paid the very last mite.

The fire and baptism - speaking of his death on the cross and what it will accomplish (fire purifies, and fire burns up the chaff)

- Mat 3:11-12 KJV I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

I did not come to bring peace but division

- Luk 2:14 KJV Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- Luk 2:34 KJV And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

Jesus Christ is the dividing line...At the final judgment the only thing that will matter is our relationship with Jesus.

- Luk 14:26 KJV If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

Hear these words from His own mouth

- Joh 3:18-19 KJV He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

And John said

- 1 Jn 5:12 "He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life." (1 Jn 5:12)

Agree with your Adversary

Until we are saved we are enemies of God - Jesus is saying you have an opportunity now to be delivered - Agree With Him