

145. Jesus Warns Us to Be Ready (Matthew 24:36-51)

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You promised You will come again soon. Help us remember Your promise. Make us busy doing Your work. Then when You come, we will be ready to live with You forever. We pray in Your name, Jesus. Amen.

Matthew 24:36-41. Jesus said, “When that day or hour comes, no one knows. The angels in heaven don’t know. The Son of God doesn’t know. Only God the Father knows when the end will happen. The same as happened in Noah’s life, the Son of Man coming will happen the same. Before the flood, people ate and drank. They got married. That happened until the day Noah entered the ark. No one knew anything about what was happening until the flood came and took them away. When the Son of Man comes, it will happen the same. Two men will be in a field. One will be taken away, one will be left. Two women will be grinding at a mill. One will be taken away, one will be left.”

- Jesus gives a very interesting picture of the end of the world. Who knows when the end will happen? If Jesus is God, why doesn’t He know?
- Jesus says His coming will be like the flood in Noah’s time. Before the flood, what did people do?
- Before Jesus comes again, what will people do? Are people doing those things now? What does that mean about when Jesus will come?
- Jesus said when He comes, two men will be working, one will be taken away, one will be left. Many people read that and think that means a “rapture,” believers taken away into heaven. Read the verses carefully. Who is taken away? Who was “taken away” in the flood?
- Two people working together side by side. One goes to heaven, one goes to hell. What does this tell us about evangelism (telling the good news about Jesus)? Who needs to know about Jesus? Who should we tell?

Matthew 24:42-44. Jesus said, “Therefore, always watch. You don’t know what day your Lord will come. But understand! Suppose a man owns a house. Suppose he knows a thief is coming, and he knows what time of night the thief is coming. That owner will watch and not let the thief break in. You must be ready the same. The Son of Man will come when you are not expecting Him.”

- If the house owner knows a thief is coming, but he doesn’t know when, will the owner peacefully go to sleep? What will he do? How does Jesus want us to watch for Him?

Matthew 24:46-51. Jesus said, “Who is the faithful and wise servant? The master makes him ruler for the other servants. That servant is responsible to give all the servants food at the right time. If the master comes back and sees that servant is doing his work, that is good. I tell you the truth, the master will make that servant the ruler of the whole house. But suppose that servant is evil. Suppose he says, ‘My master left and is not coming back for a long time.’ Then the servant beats other servants. He eats and drinks with drunks. The master will come back when the servant is not watching. The master will destroy the servant and put him with hypocrites. They will mourn and grind their teeth.”

- In the story, who is the master? Who are the servants?
- What things does a good and faithful servant do? You should name at least 2 things.
- How can we be good and faithful servants for God? What things should we continue busy doing?
- If a servant is not good, if the servant is evil, what will that servant do? Will he be ready for the master to come back? What will the master do?
- What is the best and right way for us to watch for Jesus coming back?