

## WHAT IS THE MEANING OF: “BE YE ALSO READY”?

Text:

***Matthew 24:44: Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man Cometh.***

***Matthew 25:10b: . . . the Bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with Him to the marriage: and the door was shut.***

***Revelation 19:7b: . . . and His wife hath made herself ready.***

Here is the word "ready" that sticks out like a sore thumb. It is as readily seen as the Cathedral Tower. Jesus has never been known for idle words. He knows what He is saying and says what He knows. This is the way our Lord and Master spoke to His disciples just before going to the Cross to die for our sins, as recorded in:



**Be Ready!**

***Matthew 24:44: Therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man Cometh.***

What does He mean by "being ready"? The way you or I answer this question is of the most vital importance. The most important question we have to settle right now is whether we will be inside when the door is shut, or outside, at Jesus' Coming.

Jesus did not say: "get ready" but "be ye also ready", for He was not speaking to the lost sinner at this particular time. He is warning His Church, His Bride, to be prepared for His imminent return. **These words mean: to stay in continuous readiness for His soon Return.** He is Coming suddenly, unexpectedly to some, and then it will be too late to make last minute preparations. Since there must be something very necessary to be done by me in order to fulfill this condition of "being ready" I want to know what all is involved, don't you?

There is an urgency about what Jesus said, for it is a command. If there is any barrier or besetting sin, that very sin will act as a wedge, and it will separate us from the Lord. We must get rid of it at once. **We must be without spot or blemish at Jesus' Coming.**

***Revelation 20:6a: Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection.***

***Ephesians 5:27: That He might present it to Himself a glorious church,***

*not having spot, wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

*Hebrews 12:14: Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*

*1 John 3:2-3:*

*<sup>2</sup> Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.*

*<sup>3</sup> And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.*

What is implied in these words of the Lord Jesus: "**Be ye also ready**"? **He wants us to stay constantly ready.** It is one of the spiritual requirements and stipulations necessary to which we must comply. For the very command **to be ready** carries with it this urgent meaning.

He wants us  
to stay  
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ready.

Secondly, it carries another truth: It is in the form of a warning. Any time a warning accompanies a command, you can rest assured it is something essential and vitally important. It is necessary for us to take heed to the message. The context gives a picture of a wedding in preparation. We are pictured as God's servants who are supposed to be calling people to come to this wedding. We are also told to compel people to come, for all things are now ready. Judgment awaits those who reject the invitation and disobey the call to prepare and get on their wedding garment.



*Luke 12:46-48:*

**<sup>46</sup> 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.**

**<sup>47</sup> 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.**

**<sup>48</sup> 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.

***Matthew 25:34: Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:***

***Mark 10:40: But to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared.***

***John 14:3: I go and prepare a place for you.***

***Romans 9:23: And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had afore prepared unto Glory.***

***1 Corinthians 2:9: But as it is written: Eye hath not seen nor ear heard neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.***



***Hebrews 11:16: But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.***

***Revelation 21:2: And I, John, saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem, Coming down from God out of Heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.***

The sum and substance of these wonderful promises and preparation is: Heaven. It is a prepared place for a prepared people. I know that preaching a message on saints and sinners alike to be prepared for Jesus' Coming is not popular. It does not seem to be wanted by the carnal and lukewarm church and generation. The claims are: *'We are rich and increased in goods and have need of nothing'*. So they seek nothing and get nothing.

***Heaven. It is a prepared place for a prepared people.***

The Lord reproves this modern day church for being lukewarm with a threat of

spewing her out of His mouth, except they repent and do three things which Jesus requires of them. They are:

Three Things in **Revelation 3:18** Jesus requires of them:

- 1. Buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich;**
- 2. Buy of Me white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear;**
- 3. And anoint thine eyes with eye salve, that thou mayest see.**

They had three conditions to meet to be ready. A lot of man-made doctrines are lulling many into the sleep of a false security and worthless hopes.

Jesus' parable of the Virgins will reveal there are certain spiritual requirements to be met by every believer in order to be ready for His Coming. He speaks of the flood in Noah's day and those who were outside the ark. Jesus told us in:

***Matthew 24:39: And [they] knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the Coming of the Son of Man be.***



He also tells in **Matthew 24:40-41:**

***40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.***

***41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.***

Why?

**Matthew 24:42-44:**

***42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.***

***43 But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.***

***44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man Cometh.***

Then in **verses 48-51 of Matthew**, Jesus speaks of the man who was unfaithful to his Lord and did not heed the warning to be ready, and what happened to him. Here are Jesus' words:

**Matthew 24:48-51:**

**<sup>48</sup>But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth His Coming;**

**<sup>49</sup> And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;**

**<sup>50</sup> The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for Him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,**

**<sup>51</sup> And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**Matthew 25:13: Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour where in the Son of Man Cometh.**

These words Jesus speaks to the foolish virgins who let their lamps go out and were not ready for their lord when he came.

The present-day church shows very little concern about being ready for Jesus' Coming again. This is fully in accord with the prophecies which the Holy Spirit gave concerning the end of this day of grace. Jesus first said in **Luke 18:8:**

**When the Son of Man Cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?**

This implication is that there would be a lack of faith — that apostasy would set in. This very fact is given us in:

**2 Thessalonians 2:3: Let no man deceive you by any means: that day shall not come except there come a falling away first.**

**1 Timothy 4:1: Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith;**

**2 Peter 3: 3-4:**

**<sup>3</sup> Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,**

**<sup>4</sup> 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.**

**Revelation 3:15-16:**

***<sup>15</sup>I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.***

***<sup>16</sup> So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth.***

The Church in the last days would be indifferent to holiness and the salvation of the lost. Jesus not only foretold these things before going away to Heaven, but charged His followers to be ready for His Coming. Being ready requires preparations from us.

**The Lord Jesus has laid down certain requirements which He commands us to measure up to in order to be ready for His soon Return when He commands us to watch, to wait, and to look for Him.**

These are but meaningless words IF Jesus did not expect us to fulfill the requirements behind each of them. Each of these words tells us Jesus could come just any time now. Whoever would tell you to watch, wait, and look for them to come if they had no intention of coming soon? Certainly Jesus would not deceive us into believing a lie. He is not trying to fool us either.

**The qualifications for the Church's miraculous and wonderful escape from this sin-cursed world and the tribulation days are found in obedience to certain commands of our Lord Jesus in Luke 21:34-36. Jesus warns of the dangers of becoming lax spiritually and loose in our living. Just like the evil servant who had fought with fellow believers and went out and got drunk, these stopped him from making it into the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and left him unready. So here we find Jesus giving other conditions to be met in:**

**Luke 21:34-36:**

***<sup>34</sup> And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.***

***<sup>35</sup> For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.***

***<sup>36</sup> Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before***



*the Son of Man.*

## **The Qualifications To Be Ready:**

### **1. WATCH:**



**Matthew 24:42:43**

***42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.***

***43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.***

***Matthew 25:13: Watch therefore ye know neither the day nor the hour where in the Son of Man cometh.***

**Mark 13:33-37:** [These are the words of Jesus]

***33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.***

***34 For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.***

***35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the Master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:***

***36 Lest coming suddenly He find you sleeping.***

***37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.***



**Luke 12:37–38:**

***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.***

***Luke 22:36: Then said He unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one.***

**1 Corinthians 16:13: Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:6: Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.**

**Revelation 3:2a and 3b:**

**<sup>2a</sup> Be watchful . . .**

**<sup>3b</sup> . . . 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.**

This is a solemn warning or danger of severe punishment if disobeyed.

**Revelation 16:15: Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments,**

There are three things we are commanded here to do to keep from going to sleep spiritually: Watch, Pray, and Keep Your Garments Clean.

## 2. **WAIT:**

**Luke 12:56-57:**

**<sup>56</sup> 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?**

**<sup>57</sup> Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?**



**1 Corinthians 1:7: So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**1 Thessalonians 1:10: And to wait for His Son from Heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.**

**2 Thessalonians 3:5: And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.**

Why? Jesus is waiting for us to get ready to go home, as seen in:



**James 5:7: Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the Coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.**

**3. LOOK:**

**Titus 2:13-14:**

**<sup>13</sup> Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;**

**<sup>14</sup> Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**



**Hebrews 9:28: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.**

Even a child knows the meaning of the words **watch** or **look**, the language is simple but the doing is quite another thing. For those who fail to do what Jesus said, we see this warning in:

**Matthew 24:50-51:**

**<sup>50</sup> The Lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for Him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,**

**<sup>51</sup> And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**Matthew 25:5-6:**

**<sup>5</sup> While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.**

**<sup>6</sup> And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.**

**Matthew 25:11-12:**

**<sup>11</sup> Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.**

**<sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.**

**Luke 12:46: 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.**

#### 4. LOVE:

**2 Timothy 4:7-8:**

***7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:***

***8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.***

#### 5. BE READY:

**Matthew 24:44: Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh.**

**Matthew 25:10: And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.**

**Luke 1:17: And he shall go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.**



#### Being READY means:

##### a. Abiding in Christ:

**1 John 2:28: And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His Coming.**

##### b. Stay busy working for Jesus.

**Luke 19:13: And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.**

**1 Thessalonians 4:11: And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;**

**2 Thessalonians 3:10: For even when we were with you, this we**

**commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.**

**Matthew Chapter 24** tells us that we are to use our talents wisely and that we are not to be lazy, playing around, and leaving God's work undone.

**c. Be patient while waiting for Jesus to come.**

**2 Thessalonians 3:5: And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.**

**James 5:7: Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the Coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.**

**d. Keep your garments.**

**Revelation 16:15: Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.**

Note failure in:



**Revelation 3:18: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.**

**Matthew 22:12-14:**

**<sup>12</sup> And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.**

**<sup>13</sup> Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**<sup>14</sup> For many are called, but few are chosen.**



**e. Keep obedient to the Word.**

**Revelation 3:10: Because thou hast kept the Word of My patience,**

***I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.***

***Revelation 22:12: And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.***

***Revelation 22:7: Behold, I come quickly; blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this Book.***

***1 Timothy 6:14: That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:***

#### **f. Purify yourselves.**

***1 John 3:3: And everyone that hath this hope in Him, purifieth himself even as He is pure.***

#### **g. Don't sleep.**

***1 Thessalonians 5:6: Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.***



***Matthew 25:5: While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.***

***Mark 13:36: Lest Coming suddenly He find you sleeping.***

***Matthew 13:25: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.***

Even nature teaches us, it takes longer for a lady to get ready for a date or to go out than a man. I don't think we men ought to get upset or fuss at her, and I'll tell you why. These all test our love for Him; therefore we should never chaff at His commandments, for they are not grievous.

#### **h. Mortify body passions and lusts.**

***Colossians 3:4-9:***

***<sup>4</sup> When Christ, Who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory.***

***<sup>5</sup> Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;***

**fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:**

**<sup>6</sup> For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:**

**<sup>7</sup> In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.**

**<sup>8</sup> But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.**

**<sup>9</sup> Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;**



**Luke 21:34: And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.**

#### **i. Moderation.**

**Philippians 4:5: Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.**

Overlook insults arising from carnal Christians. Pettiness or touchiness is conduct of the weak Christian, so live in the Spirit a self-restrained life.

#### **j. Sanctified: Necessity of sanctification for the believer.**

**1 Thessalonians 5:23: And the very God of Peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### **k. Faith must be kept strong.**

**Luke 18:8: I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of Man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?**

**1 Peter 1:7: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.**

#### **l. Stablish (establish) your hearts.**

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-13:**

***12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:***

***13 To the end He may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.***

***Romans 16:25: Now to Him that is of power to stablish you according to My Gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,***

***James 5:8: Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the Coming of the Lord draweth nigh.***

We find out why this is necessary in:

**2 Peter 2:14-15:**

***14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:***

***15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;***

**2 Peter 3:13-16:**

***13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.***

***14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless.***

***15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;***

***16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.***

**2 Thessalonians 3:3: But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.**

**m. Pray always.**

**Luke 21:36: Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.**



**n. Gird up the loins.**

**1 Peter 1:13: Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

**o. Do not hold a grudge.**

**James 5:9: Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold the Judge standeth before the door.**

**p. Hold fast.**

**Revelation 2:25: But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.**



**Revelation 3:3: 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.**

**Revelation 3:11: Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.**

**Hebrews 3:6: But Christ as a Son over His Own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.**

**Hebrews 3:14: For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;**

**Hebrews 4:14: Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast**

*our profession.*

***Hebrews 10:25: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.***

For He is faithful that promised.

***Titus 1:9a: Holding fast the faithful word . . .***

***1 Timothy 1:19: Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:***

***Colossians 2:19: And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.***



***2 Thessalonians 2:15: Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.***

Talking to His Bride, Jesus wants to know that our love is pure, genuine and only for Him as our heavenly Bridegroom. That is why He tests our faithfulness, our consecration, our loyalty to Him in using these terms of requirements for preparation to be His.

After He went back home, He sent some further instructions back through His holy apostles. These we have given you in this study. Jesus gave in **Matthew 25** the plainest picture of what He means by understanding better those words in:

***Luke 12:35: Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning.***

When we see this parable of the Kingdom, three things here are necessary:

- 1. Keep awake**
- 2. Keep your clothes on, and**
- 3. Keep your lights burning**



If just “saved only” preparation is necessary, He would



never have given these specific detailed commandments. Jesus can come just anytime. He would not have foolishly told us to watch, wait, look, be ready, and be prepared for that which would not or could not occur just any time.

**Question:** What material object does Jesus use as a necessary part of our spiritual attire for our journey in a dark world during this midnight hour?

***Isaiah 61:10: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.***

What is the danger? Jesus warns against our going to sleep. And that knowing the time, it is high time to awake out of sleep.

For now salvation is nearer than when we believed.

***Romans 13:12-14:***

***12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.***

***13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.***

***14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.***

***Ephesians 5:14: Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.***

***1 Thessalonians 5:6: Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.***

Jesus never spoke idle words. Every instruction He gave for our readiness to meet Him at His Coming is necessary, or else He would have never required it of us or spoken them. Continual preparedness and expectation for His return is what He expects of us.

*As Noah spake and the people gave no heed, so it will be when Jesus comes again. The trumpet call is not to the Methodists, Baptists, Pentecostals, or Holiness folk, but to the watchers who are waiting — longing for His Return; those who have washed their robes in the Blood of the Lamb and are looking and waiting in*



readiness for His personal, soon, and sudden Return for them.

Will you sin away your day of grace? God gave to Noah an intention of mercy for his generation. Just seven days extra. Christ is the Ark — you are having your last call and chance to get into Him. What will be the fate of the unprepared? Great tribulation awaits all those who do not heed the warning call. The Great White Throne of Judgment comes next. True faith in Jesus' Word will produce action. Faith without works is dead being alone. We will be wise if we hear His sayings and do them.

**Our text is a Promise.** They that were ready went in with Him and the door was shut — just like in the ark of Noah — and unbelievers were left outside to face the wrath of God in judgment. Jesus Promised to come the first time, and He did. He Promised to die on the cross for our sins, and He did. He Promised He would rise again from the dead, and He did. He Promised He will come again, and He will.



**Conclusion: The very first qualification To Be Ready is to be “in Christ”.**

What does this mean?

To get into Christ, you need to be born-again and God will place you in “the Body of Christ” and “The Family of God.” You become a New Creature in Christ.

***2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***

You are now saved from all your sins and Jesus lives in your heart.

***1 Corinthians 15:23: But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His Coming.***

***1 Thessalonians 4:16-17:***

***<sup>16</sup>For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:***

***<sup>17</sup>Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.***

Those outside of Christ are lost — without God and without hope in this world. They are still in their sins and on their way to Hell. Jesus came to save all of us from our sins.

***Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.***

***Matthew 1:21: And she [Mary] shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His Name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins.***

He wants to save you now. Salvation from our sins means deliverance from the power of our old wicked heart, sinful habits, and troubled conscience. Jesus came to set us free from sin, satan and self.

**While the door of His Mercy is still open, will you come before it's too late? The door of hope will shut one of these days, just as Jesus told us when He gave the Parable of the Foolish Virgins. Don't wait any longer or you will be left outside.**



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