

# Watchfulness and Readiness for Christ's Return

by W.F. Kumuyi

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of watchfulness and being prepared for Christ's return, highlighting the signs of his coming and the consequences of being unprepared.*

**Duration:** 1:13:02

**Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 5:6

**Topics:** "Second Coming", "Holy Living"

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## Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of being ready for the second coming of Jesus Christ. It highlights the need for constant watchfulness, remembrance of God's word, and recommitment to living a holy life. The speaker urges the audience to be prepared, avoid worldly distractions, and stay focused on their faith to ensure they are ready when Christ returns.

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## Transcript

Praise the Lord. Rise up as we pray together. Let's pray.

Father, we thank you for tonight. Thank you for what you've done since we began the retreat. Thank you for your blessing upon your people.

We're asking Lord that tonight you seal upon the windows of heaven and shower your blessings upon your people in Jesus name. We're asking Lord that none of us will miss your blessing, that everything you intended to pour upon us, upon each one, every brother, every sister, every youth, every child. Lord we pray you will fulfill your purpose in every life in Jesus name.

We're asking Lord that your blessing will enrich every life, empower every life, enable us to be what we ought to be and do everything we ought to do in Jesus name. Open our eyes of understanding as we look at your words and we look at the second coming of the Lord, the rapture of the church and the readiness of the saints of God and our watchfulness. Oh Lord, make us watchful in Jesus name.

And we pray that when that day will come, that Christ will come to take the church home. Lord we pray none of us will be missing in Jesus name. Speak to every heart very clearly tonight and give us a grace to follow.

We thank you because we know you have answered. In Jesus name we pray. And the people of God said, we're looking at Mark chapter 13.

Mark chapter 13 I'm reading from verse 32. But of that day and that hour knowest no man. No, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Take heed and watch and pray. For ye know not when that time, when the time is. Here the Lord Jesus Christ was speaking about his return.

He's coming again. He came the first time. And the scriptures in the Old Testament are a lot to say about the coming of Christ for the first time.

At least you know a child is born. A son is given unto us. And then it says the government shall be upon his shoulder.

The first part of that sentence of that verse had been fulfilled. He came the first time and he gave himself, gave his life on the cross of Calvary. And he sacrificed so that you and I can be saved and the rest of the world can be saved.

But then the second part of that verse, the government shall be upon his shoulder. He needs to come again so that he will fulfill that part. And that's what I was talking about at this time.

That he will come again. But people are always inquisitive. When will he come? What day? What time? What year will he come? And Jesus Christ made the disciples to know and is reminding us as well that nobody on earth knows about the time of his coming.

In fact he said even the angels of God in heaven, that they do not know when he will come. But that time is in the hands of the Father. But he called us to just one thing.

That since we know the certainty of his coming, that we need to watch. Now he tells us in verse 34. For the Son of Man is as a man taking a journey.

Who left his house and gave authority to his servants and to every man his work and commanded the porter to watch. That's our call to watchfulness. That's a commandment for you and I to watch.

He says in verse 35. What's he there for? For you know not when the master of the house cometh. He will come yes we know but you don't know what time, what day, what month, what year.

We know not when he will come. It may be at evening or at midnight or at the cock crowing or in the morning. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping and what I say, I say unto all give me that watch.

Watch. He wants us to watch and well watch will be ready in Jesus name. In Luke chapter 21, Luke chapter 21, Luke records the same thing.

And he tells us still emphasizing what the Lord had emphasized. Watchfulness and readiness for Christ's return. In Luke chapter 21 reading there from verse 27.

He tells us in verse 27. And there shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And then he tells us in verse 28.

And when these things begin to come to pass. Which means they will happen. The certainty is there.

And he tells us when they begin to happen then look up and lift up your ears for your redemption draws near. Then he tells us in Luke chapter 29. And he speak to them.

A parable behold the fig tree and all the trees when they now shoot forth. You see and know of your own selves that the summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye when you see these things come to pass know that the kingdom of God is near at hand.

Verily I say unto you this generation shall not pass away till all be fulfilled. He had given some signs of the things that will happen very near the time of his coming. And he says that generation the people living at that time that you'll see all those signs coming in place that you should know that the generation will not pass until every other thing be fulfilled.

In verse 34 shall pass away. But my word shall not pass away. The word I said about my return shall not pass away.

The word I said about all those signs happening will not pass away. And now he calls us to watchfulness again. He calls us for readiness again.

In verse 34. And take heed to yourselves. Lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with suffocating and drunkenness.

And the cares of your heart be overcharged with drunkenness. And the cares of your heart be overcharged with suffocating and drunkenness. And the cares of your heart be overcharged with suffocating and drunkenness.

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And the cares of your heart be reading there from verse sixty-four. Jesus says unto him, Thou hast said, and nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall you see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven. There's a lot in that verse, you know at this time Jesus Christ had been betrayed by the by Judas Iscariot and is been betrayed into the hands of these people that were going to take the Lord Jesus Christ and crucify him.

He was sure about that crucifixion. He had spoken about that a lot of times. He was sure about his death.

He had spoken about that Jew. He knew he would die and yet he said that I say certainly, assuredly, unto you hereafter ye shall see the Son of Man sitting in the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven. What was he saying there? He said I know you'll crucify me.

I know you'll put me to death. I know I'll die. I know I'll be buried but I'm going to rise again.

On the third day I will rise again and then when I rise I'll show myself to my disciples that they may know that resurrection is for real and then after that I will ascend to heaven but my coming back is very definite and when I come back I'll not be coming back as somebody who is humiliated. I'll be coming back to reign and he says you'll see the Son of Man. He'll be sitting on the right hand of power.

That shows that he was certain he was coming again even before he went to that crucifixion to the cross. He was talking certainly, assuredly, about his coming again and then he said he'll be coming in the clouds of heaven. That's the revelation he gave concerning his coming.

We're looking at Mark chapter 13. Mark chapter 13 verse 24. For a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, someone who believes the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, there's no doubt, no shadow of doubt in your mind that Christ is coming again.

For those who believe the scriptures and the scriptures of the prophets from the Old Testament even to the New Testament there is no doubt about it in your mind Jesus is coming again. And for those who believe the testimony of all the all the witnesses in the scriptures there's no doubt at all that Jesus Christ is coming again. In Mark chapter 13 reading from verse 24.

Mark 13 verse 24 he tells us, but in those days after the tribulation the sun shall be darkened and the moon shall not give her light and the stars of heaven shall fall and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken and then and then and then shall they see the Son of Man coming in the clouds, coming in the clouds with great power and glory. That's the certainty. It's very definite what Jesus said.

He said yes there'll be the great tribulation then the Son of Man will come again. He says he'll come in, he'll be coming in the clouds with great power and great glory and then shall he send his angels and shall gather together his elect from the four winds from the north and the east and the south and the west and he says for of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven. Now learn a parable of the fig tree when her branch is set in them and put a forth leaves you know that summer is near so ye in like manner when you see this is come to pass you know that it is near even at the door verily I say unto you that this generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled.

He's coming very definitely is coming again. He spoke to his own disciples and he said he'll be coming for them in John chapter 14, John chapter 14. As you read all these look at Matthew and he says he'll come again.

Look at Mark he's coming again. Look at Luke he's coming again and John the beloved is reporting to us and is reminding us that Jesus said he's coming again. When we're talking about the coming of the Lord, the coming is in two phases, two sides.

Number one he'll come for the church. That will be the before the Great Revolution. He'll come for the church.

The church will be taken away and then after several years of the Great Revolution he'll come again now to establish his Millennial Kingdom and then the eyes will see him at that time. Let's look at the time of the rapture now for his coming, coming for the church. John chapter 14 verse 1 Let not your heart be troubled, your heart will not be troubled.

I said your heart will not be troubled. You believe in God, you believe also in me. You believe in God, God Almighty, the God who has set all the plan and he said this is what is going to happen and God says I am God, I change not and because I change not, that's why the people of God are not consumed.

He says he's coming again and he says believe also in me. Every word I have said, everything is going to come to fulfillment. Everything is going to be fulfilled.

Heaven and earth may pass away but my word shall not pass away. He says in my father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you I go to prepare a place for you.

I go to prepare a place for you. I pray that that you there will be you in front of me here in Jesus name. He said I go, he said I'm going.

He had not even died at that time but he said I'm not going to just just die and then you forgot and you forget only about me but I go to prepare a place for you and he said if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again. That talks about number one is resurrection. He said I am going.

How was he going to go? He was going to go by the way of the cross. He'll be crucified. He will die.

He will be buried yet he will rise again. That's why he said I go to prepare a place. He will ascend to heaven and when he ascends to heaven, then he will stay there for some time, for some years.

He'll be preparing places for you, for me and for all believers and he said I will come again. I receive you unto myself so that where I am, there you may be also. You'll be there in Jesus name.

Eventually you know it was after this time was betrayed. After this time he was killed. After this time he died.

After this time he was buried. After this time he rose again and when he rose again, he appeared to his soon disciples and he revealed himself unto them and there was no doubt it was the same Jesus. Look at Acts of the Apostles chapter 1. Acts of the Apostles chapter 1. It says in verse 2, chapter 1 verse 2, until the day in which he was taken up after he threw the Holy Ghost at giving commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen to whom also he showed himself alive.

After his, that's after he rose from there. After his passion by many fallible proofs being seen of them forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God and eventually after he had spoken to them, look at verse 9, and when he had spoken these things, while they beheld he was taken up and a cloud received him out of their sight. You see that? They had raised him from the dead and he showed them by many fallible proofs they couldn't miss this.

The same Christ, our master, our Lord, our teacher and the one who has died for us to save us. He rose from the dead and we can see it. When he rose from the dead, he appeared to his own disciples.

Thomas was not there and then he told Thomas, he said, do you know that Jesus Christ has risen from the dead? He said, no, I'm not going to believe that except I see the print of the nails in his hand and the following week Jesus Christ appeared again unto the disciples and said, Thomas, come in here and believe and do not be doubtful and don't be doubting. Look at the nail prints and look at my sight and Thomas said, my Lord and my God and Jesus said, Thomas, you have believed because you have seen but blessed are those who have not seen but have believed and then after everybody was very sure, in fact, at a particular time to more than 500 at the same time, he revealed himself unto these disciples. After the whole thing now, when he has spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Verse 10, and then and while they looked steadfastly toward heaven, as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, which also said, ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? The same Jesus, praise the Lord. I said, praise the Lord. The same Jesus, the same one that was born of virgin Mary, the same Jesus, the same one that went about doing good, healing all that were oppressed of the devil, the same Jesus, the same one that was betrayed and crucified and hung on the cross, the same Jesus, the one that died and was buried, the same Jesus, that same one that rose up the Sunday, the same Jesus who had appeared unto you and showed himself unto you by many valuable proofs, the same Jesus that you see going up now, the same Jesus which is taking all from you, he to heaven shall so come in like manner, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

That tells us Jesus said it, the angels said it, these two angels appeared and he said, he's coming again, he's coming again, he's coming again. You better get ready and better get prepared because that Jesus, he is coming again, he will come and when he comes, he'll find you ready, he'll find you watching. Let's look at 1 Thessalonians chapter 4. 1 Thessalonians chapter 4, we have the revelation of the very fact that

he's coming for the church and the rapture and then after that he's coming for the rest of the world and you will see him.

In 1 Thessalonians chapter 4, reading here from verse 13, but I would not have you to be ignorant brethren concerning them which are asleep, that she sorrow not even as others which have no hope. For if we believe, and thank God I believe, as I thank God I believe, as I thank God I believe, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord.

This is not the opinions of enough man. This is not just congestion by a man. This is not philosophy by a philosopher.

This is not just a make-believe by somebody that just wants to tell us that Christ is coming again. It says, but we say unto you by the word of the Lord that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord. You see that? Unto the coming of the Lord.

Here is the inspiration of the Spirit of God revealing unto Paul the Apostle that Jesus is coming again. To the coming of the Lord shall not prevent, shall not hinder them which are asleep. For the Lord himself, the Lord himself, the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise forth.

Then we which are alive, we which are alive, who are those people, we which are alive, praise the Lord, you'll make it in Jesus name. The Lord will take care of you, he'll give you all the grace necessary, all the enablement necessary, you'll be ready in Jesus name. 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, and so, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words. He's coming again.

I said he's coming again. He said so, and he will fulfill his word before us, with us, in our sight, in Jesus name. Revelation, I'm reading from Revelation chapter 1. Revelation chapter 1, we're looking at verses 7 and 8. Revelation chapter 1, verse 7, behold he cometh, he cometh to other clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also which peers to him, and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him, even so, amen.

He said, behold he cometh, he cometh to other clouds. He said that before he led this world. He said that while he was before the high priest, now he's going to heaven.

And from heaven, he's sending the message back again. And he said, behold he cometh. He tells us in verse 8, I am Alpha, I am Omega, the beginning and the ending, says the Lord.

Which is, which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. Look at Revelation chapter 16, verse 15. Revelation chapter 16, and we're reading there from verse 15.

It tells us very pointedly and very clearly, without any shadow of doubt, that he is coming again. Revelation chapter 16, verse 15, behold I come. Behold I come.

This is the Lord Jesus Christ again, assuring us. He's speaking from glory. He's speaking from heaven.

And he says, behold I come. I come as a thief. That means, I'll come suddenly.

I'll come when the rest of the world will be sleeping. But then those of us who are hearts awake, were the bride of Christ, were expecting his return. And because we're expecting his return, we're awake.

And we're saying, would Lord come? Would Lord come? But for the people of the world, it will be so sudden, it will be like he came as a thief. And behold I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked and deceive his shame.

Revelation chapter 22. Revelation 22, the very last chapter of the Bible. And the Bible couldn't even be concluded until it speaks again about the coming of the Lord.

About the very fact that he will come. Revelation chapter 22, verse 7. Behold I come. Behold I come quickly.

Behold I come quickly. Blessed is he that keepeth the sins of the prophecy of this book. The Lord is coming again.

I said the Lord is coming again. It's so certain, it's so sure. And I pray that you and I, all of us, will be ready in Jesus' name.

Point number two now, readiness for the church's rapture. Readiness for the church's rapture. As we're talking about the coming of the Lord, the return of the Lord.

Number one, he's going to return. He'll return once again. He'll return for the church, for his own people.

We'll read this before. Let me read this again to give you reassurance. In John chapter 14.

John chapter 14. And see what Jesus Christ said concerning his return. His return for the church.

It says in John chapter 14, reading there from verse 1, he tells us, let not your heart be troubled. When you see all the things happening in the world, all the volcanoes, and all the storms, and all the disasters, and everything, it's likely, you know, you'll say, if this is coming now, they're going to wipe away the whole world. When you see one nation rising against another nation.

When you see this powerful nation against this other powerful nation. And it's like, there's explosion everywhere. And when you open the pages of the papers, you read this, and read this, and read that, you're likely to be troubled.

But the Lord said, don't allow your heart to be troubled. Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me.

It's a bad place before the child is born. It's a bad thing before this whole world will see the coming in of the Lord. Something good is going to come out of all these commotions, and all these conflicts that you see.

That's why he says, now in my father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you, I go to prepare a place for you. He's going to prepare a place for you.

I said, he's going to prepare a place for you. And while he's preparing that place for you, you are preparing yourself for that place, so that everything will match together. If I go, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again.

I will come again. I will come again, after preparing that place for you, and receive you unto myself. That's where I am, where I am, where you see now.

I said, where you see now. You know, there are some people that say that there's no other heaven, that this is this world, this dusty place, they're going to live forever and ever. I'm not going to grow, they might lead them to that, but I'm going to the other side.

I said, I'm going to the other side. I bought you. Will you be there? I said, will you be there? God is preparing, Christ is preparing a place.

Will you be there? Yes, I will be there. Your sins are forgiven, your sins are taken away. He's preparing you, and preparing the place for you.

It'll match everything. You'll be there in Jesus' name. So that where I am, there you may be also.

He is coming, but he wants us to be ready. Let's look at 1st Corinthians chapter 15. 1st Corinthians chapter 15, and I'm reading there from verse 51.

1st Corinthians 15, reading from verse 51. It says in verse 51, Behold, I show you a mystery, a mystery, because not many people know this. It is hidden away from them.

Behold, I show you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump, then it says, for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we, not them, and we, not just them, and we, thank God, I'm there, you are there, and we shall be changed.

It will happen in Jesus' name. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when the corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, there shall be brought to pass the sin that is written, death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grief, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. It says, therefore, it says, therefore, because it's coming again, therefore, because we're going to be changed, therefore, because it's going to take us to that place of whom above, and it's going to give us reward according to the work we have done.

It says, therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as she know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord, your labor will not be in vain in Jesus' name. Now it tells us we need to get ready. We need to get prepared.

In fact, it said in Matthew chapter, Matthew chapter 24, Matthew chapter 24, reading from verse 42, Matthew 24, reading from verse 42, readiness, readiness, readiness for the church's rapture, readiness for the church's rapture. Before the great tribulation strikes this world, Christ will come. He'll come for the sins.

He'll come for the church, and he wants us to be ready. It tells us in Matthew chapter 24, verse 42, watch ye therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. It's your Lord, it's your Lord.

You are born again, it's your Lord. You are saved, it's your Lord. You are washed in the blood of the Lamb, it's your Lord.

You are a believer in Christ, you are a disciple of Christ, you are a follower of Christ, he is your Lord. But all the same, being ready is not automatic. You must watch, you must watch, you must pray, and you must resist everything that will make you, that will make your heart to be glued to this world, so that you will not remember when that is coming.

It says, but know this, that if the, if the good man of the house had known in what hour, in what, in what hour he would have watched, the thief would come. He would have watched, and would not have suffered, would not have permitted his house to be broken up. Therefore, therefore, therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.

It says, therefore be ye also ready. Then he goes to the next chapter, chapter 25, and he tells us that there'll be some people who will not be ready. There'll be some people who will not be ready.

That, that, that is the reason for telling, for giving us this parable. In chapter 25, reading from verse 1, if readiness is automatic, if you don't need to preach about, I'm a child of God, every child of God will be ready, then there's no need for preaching. If everybody is going to be ready, whether they, you know, keep up themselves according to the Word of God or not, whether they are praying or not, whether they are watchful or not, whether they are resisting temptation or not, if the readiness is automatic, there's no need for a parable.

There's no need for preaching. There's no need for prayer. There's no need to examine ourselves.

There's no need to remind ourselves that we must be ready, but it's because the readiness is not automatic. You have something to do. As a child of God, yes, the grace is there.

Yes, the power of the Holy Ghost is there. Yes, all the enablement is there, but we need to make use of all those provisions of the Lord so that we can be ready, and thank God you will be ready. I said thank God you will be ready.

Matthew chapter 25, verse 1, Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins which took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Five were wise, five were foolish.

The foolish ones were virgins too, but the wise ones were also virgins. You see, it's talking about the whole church, the visible church. A part will be wise, a part will be watchful, a part will be reading the Word, a part will be aligning their lives with the Word of God, a part will be examining themselves, a part will just be not challenged, a part will be not caring, a part will just feel that, well, it's coming, it's coming, it's coming for everybody, and I'll be ready anyhow.

They will not watch, and they will be the foolish ones. Look at verse 3, it says they that were foolish took their lamps, and they took no oil with them. They took no oil with them.

They didn't prepare for the coming of the Lord. It says for the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps, and while the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept, and at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins, ten of them arose, and they trimmed their lamps, and the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil.

They were not ready. Give us of your oil. They didn't have enough grace, enough oil.

Give us of your oil. They didn't have enough light to show them, to see them through all through the night. Give us of your oil, for our lambs are gone out.

I pray your lambs will not go out. When somebody forgets how to pray, his light will go out. When somebody forgets how to read the Word of God, his light will go out.

When somebody forgets how to get the grace of God, grace upon grace, that person, his light will go out. When somebody forgets about developing his faith, his light will go out. When somebody forgets about fellowshiping, what they say, so that we can encourage each other.

Iron sharpens iron. When somebody forgets that the Lord is coming, I need to get ready. His lamp will go out.

He'll be one of the foolish virgins. I will not be foolish. I said I will not be foolish.

They said our lambs are gone out, but the wise answered saying, Not so. Let there be not enough for us and you. The grace I have is only enough for me.

That grace is not enough for you and I. That means you must get the grace yourself. The salvation I have is only sufficient for me. I cannot share that salvation with you.

Yes, I can tell you how to go to the cross, how to repent, how to turn around, how to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, how to have that salvation for yourself, but the one I have is only sufficient for me. The sanctification, the holiness, the righteousness, the purity of heart I have is only sufficient for me. I cannot say I've got so much sanctification, can I share part of it with you? You don't have to pray for yourself.

You are to seek the Lord for yourself, for the peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. That holiness I have is only sufficient, just sufficient for me. We cannot share it.

The Holy Ghost baptism I have, I cannot share that with you. I can tell you, if anyone is desirous and thirsty, let him come unto me and drink. And then, because as the scripture has said, out of your innermost being your belly shall flow rivers of living water.

I can tell you, the promise is unto you and your children and to many as many as are called of the Lord. But I cannot say, okay, I've got so much of that baptism, can I give you a little? The oil we have is sufficient just for ourselves. That's why the wise virgin said, not so, lest there be, there be not enough for us and you.

But go rather to them that sell and buy for yourselves. Look at verse 10, while they went, 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. Afterward, this late comers, afterward came also the other virgins, the foolish virgins, those that were not ready, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

But he answered and said, verily, I say unto you, I know you not. I know you not. I know you not.

You'll not hear such a sentence of a final day in Jesus' name. When they could have prepared, they didn't prepare. And when they could have repented, they didn't repent.

When they could have kind of touched their oil, they didn't do that. When you could have had more grace and more faith and more strength and more ability and more power, so that they will live in the center of

the will of God every day of their lives, they did not do that. They were busy with other things.

Now at the time they came, it was too late for them. I pray that it will not be too late for you in Jesus' name. In verse 13, watch therefore, watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.

Readiness. That's very important. Readiness.

Very important. Luke chapter 21 again. Luke chapter 21.

And he wants us to get ready. That's why he gives us a multiplied force from Matthew, from Mark, from Luke, from John, from everywhere, reminding us from the Gospel, from the Epistles, reminding us to get ready. Get ready because the Lord is coming.

He's coming again. In Luke chapter 21, reading from verse 34, Luke chapter 21, reading from verse 34, and take heed to yourselves. Take heed to yourselves.

It says take care of yourselves. You know there are some people, they don't take heed to themselves. They take heed for other people.

They watch over other people. They don't watch over themselves. They watch over the lives of other people.

They don't watch over their own personal lives. It's like, you know, sometimes we parents, we do that, and it's alright. It's alright.

We're watching over our children. We're taking care of their health. We're taking care of their morals.

We're taking care of their education. We're taking care of everything. And we're very meticulous about what happens to that child.

But we're not taking such care about ourselves. And there are times that have happened in the family that the husband is taking care of the wife. He's watching over the wife.

Hey, don't do this. Don't do that way. And he's not watching over himself.

Other times, the wife is watching over the husband. You know, don't go that direction. Don't go that direction.

Keep your salvation and keep your holiness. Keep your righteousness. Don't mess up your life, whatever.

But that wife is not watching over herself. Sometimes the pastor watching over members of the church. Everybody sit right and stand right and say right and act right and do everything right and think right.

But the pastor watching over others is not watching over himself. Sometimes the members of the church, the members of it, they are concerned about the leadership. They are concerned about their pastor.

Our pastor must stand straight. Our pastor must walk straight. Our pastor must pray up.

Our pastor must make sure that he's living according to the word of God. And that's good. That's good.

It's good to remind our pastors. They should live right. But you watch over yourself as well.

You are not watching over other people to the point you forget that you yourself, you must watch over. Watch over your life. Watch over your character.

Watch over everything about you so that you will be ready. You'll be ready on that final day in Jesus name. That's why Jesus said take heed.

Take heed to yourselves. Let's at any time, let's at any time, at any time, you know, there are times we become intoxicated with success at any time. You know, sometimes we just pass an exam and then we become so happy I pass an exam and then you might go overboard.

Sometimes we've just gotten married and because of that marriage, you know, I'm in for the wedding and here is the, you know, wedding and here is the celebration and all that. And at the reception we forget ourselves and it says at any time. Sometimes if somebody has died in the family and we say I'm going to give him a decent burial and as we are trying to give the decent burial we go overboard and then we bring worldliness into it.

And you say watch over yourself less at any time. Sometimes it is when we're together like this and we're happy and we're rejoicing and we say this is celebration time. Sometimes in that celebration time we go overboard.

We rejoice and then the joy will bring the worldliness in. But the Lord is saying less at any time. Your hearts be overcharged with self-eating and drunkenness and the chaos of this life.

A Christian that does, a Christian that does not drink. You know, sometimes it's during wedding we forget ourselves. We're bringing alcohol and sometimes maybe it's during funeral ceremony we forget ourselves because the people of the world they are there to celebrate with us or rejoice with us and this one is bringing that and that one is bringing that and it says less at any time we forget ourselves and then we get into drunkenness and we get into self-eating and then it says and the chaos of this life and the chaos of this life.

I've just got an employment and I need to, you know, dress smart and look smart and everything must be alright because this new employment is very important and then the chaos of this life will come so that they come upon you unawares. Remember this is not, you know, a deeper life a preacher that wrote this. This is the Lord Jesus Christ himself that is saying we must watch over our lives and not become careless.

Then it says in verse Give me a good good amen and we'll be ready in the name of Jesus. Revelation chapter 2. Revelation chapter 2. I'm reading there from verse 25. Revelation chapter 2. We're reading from verse 25.

Revelation chapter 2. Reading there from verse 25. What an important instruction the Lord is giving us. An important enlightenment the Lord is giving us.

It says but in verse 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. That which ye have already hold fast till I come. He that overcometh and keepeth my works unto the end.

To him will I give power over the nations and he shall rule them with a rod of iron. And in seas and vessels of the porter shall they be broken to shivers even as I receive of my Father and I will give him the morning star. I pray that you'll not miss out on the final day in Jesus name.

Revelation chapter 3 verse 11. Revelation chapter 3 verse 11. Behold I come quickly.

Hold that fast which thou hast that no man take thy crown. Hold that fast the doctrine of the world, the teaching of the word of God we have, the Christian experiences we have. Hold that fast so that nobody will take your crown.

Revelation 22. In Revelation 22 reading from verse 12. Verse 12 it says and behold I come quickly and my reward is with me to give every man according as his work shall be.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments. I'll be part of these people.

I said I'll be part of these people. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have rights to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city. How about the other people who are not prepared, who are not ready, they just live their lives carelessly, wake up in the morning, no quiet time, no devotion, no reading of the Bible, no prayer and then there's no asking for great grace and greater grace to see them through the day and to be ready for the coming of the Lord.

We'll find them in verse 15. For without outside are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the all-mongers, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. But he says, I Jesus have sent my angel to testify unto you.

These things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bride and the morning star. Verse 20.

He which hath testified, these things say, surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

Now point number three. Remembering with constant recommitment. Remembering with constant recommitment.

The Lord has told us what to remember. And he says, remember, remember, remember. Because of those things we'll remember, those people will remember.

Then we'll watch constantly, and we'll recommit our lives constantly. Luke chapter 17. Luke chapter 17.

I'm reading from verse 26. And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given a marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

You see that? There are people that they just get preoccupied, marriage, marriage, marriage, family, family, work, employment, certificate, education, and they forget that the Lord is coming. And they give a hundred percent of their attention, a hundred percent of their time, a hundred percent of their focus, a hundred percent of their concentration on just those secular things, and those personal things, and they forget to get ready for the coming of the Lord. In verse 28, likewise also, as it was in the days of Lot, they did eat, and they drank, and they bought, and they sold, and they planted, and they built, but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom, he and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

Even so, even though shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. Verse 32, remember Lord's wife. Verse 32, remember Lord's wife.

Verse 32, everybody say this aloud together, won't you go? And we say that again, won't you go? For the final time, can you say that? Remember Lord's wife. Lord's wife heard the warning ahead of time, but she wasn't ready. Lord's wife even saw the two angels that came to Sodom and Gomorrah, but she wasn't ready.

Lord's wife had known about uncle Abraham, and yet she wasn't ready. Lord's wife had been, had been held by those two angels, they laid hold on them, and brought them out escape to the mountain. She had the warning, she had the word, she had the message, but she wasn't ready.

And the Lord Jesus Christ said, remember Lord's wife, if readiness is automatic, if going to heaven is automatic, if everybody that came to church, everybody that goes to church, everybody that reads the Bible will be ready without any preparation. Why would Jesus Christ say, remember Lord's wife? He tells us to remember, you will remember in Jesus' name. Acts of the Apostles chapter 20, Acts of the Apostles chapter 20, I'm reading from verse 31.

Remember, here Paul the apostle told the people at his own time, the people he had preached to, he told them, remember, remember, the Lord is coming, and do not allow that day to come upon you unawares. In Acts of the Apostles chapter 20 verse 31, therefore watch and remember, therefore watch and remember, there are people that will backslide, but I will not backslide. I said I will not backslide.

There are people that will forget that the Lord is coming, and because of the activities of the day, the chaos of the world, and the chaos of this life, they'll just, you know, kind of flitter away their lives. And Paul the apostle said, therefore watch and remember, that by the space of three years, I ceased not one, every one, night and day with tears. Remember, we will remember.

I said we will remember. In 2 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, you remember with renewed and with constant recommitment of your life, and you're saying, oh Lord, I will be ready. I will not miss out on that day.

I will always remember. 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, I'm reading there from verse 5, remember ye not that when I was yet with you, I told you these things? Do you remember? You must remember. And then he says, now ye know what was bolded, that he might be revealed in his time.

And for the mystery of iniquity does already work. Only he who now hinders or letteth will let or hinder until he be taken out of the way. And there shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.

Even him whose coming is after the walking of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. There are times some people will be told that there's a miracle taking place over there, there is another, signs and wonders taking over there, and they forget that all those places where there's no righteousness, no holiness, all those places where the truth of the word of God is not emphasized, whatever miracle is taking place there, there are signs and lying wonders. And then he says, with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Then he tells us in verse 11, for this cause God shall send them strong delusion that you believe a lie. There are people that have believed a lie already, and they want to kind of sell the lie to you. They want to publish the lies to you.

But you'll take care of yourself so that you will not forget, and so that you will not be lost on the final day. It says that they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but have pleasure in unrighteousness. Look at verse 13, but we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren, beloved of the Lord, because God has from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

I pray that the choice of God over your life will not be in vain in Jesus' name. Jude verse 17, Jude verse 17, remember, and as you remember you recommit yourself unto the Lord so that you'll be ready for that final day. We're looking at Jude verse 17.

It says, but beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. Remember the words, remember the words of those apostles, how they told you that there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly laws. There'll be people who will mock, who will jest, who will say, the Lord's come, Jesus is coming, that's how they always say it, he's coming again, that's how they always say it, the church is going to be raptured, that's what they always say.

Remember that those mockers will be there, those cofers will be there, and these will be there who separate themselves, they are sensual, they have not the spirit, but ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. He goes, keep yourselves, keep yourselves, keep yourselves, this watchfulness, you keep yourself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. In verse 24, now, unto him that is able to keep you from falling, he'll keep you from falling in Jesus' name, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory, with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Savior, with glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever, amen.

Revelation chapter 2, Revelation chapter 2, I'm reading from verses 4 and 5, Revelation chapter 2, verses 4 and 5, nevertheless I have some words against thee, because thou hast led thy false love. There are people as well as the coming of the Lord has not taken place, and their false love is no more there. The way they loved the Bible, they don't love the Bible that way anymore.

The way they love the doctrines of the Word of God, they don't love the doctrines of the Word of God like that anymore. The way they love the preaching of the Word, the preaching that will cleanse them, that will convict them, that will drive them to their knees, they don't love that anymore, and the Lord is saying, you've led your false love, remember in verse 5, therefore, from ways thou art fallen, and repent, and do the false wars, for else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of thy place, out of this place, except thou repent. You will not remove my candlestick.

I said I will not allow him to remove my candlestick. Then he says, remember, look at chapter 3, chapter 3, verse 3, remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, remember what you heard originally, remember how you accepted the gospel originally, remember how you gave your life, everything you've got to the gospel originally, remember therefore how thou received and heard, and hold fast, and repent, if therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come unto thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. The Lord calls us to remembrance with re-commitment and re-renewal of our lives to the Lord, and we're going to do exactly that.

Before we close, look at Revelation chapter 16, Revelation 16, verse 15, behold I come, behold I come suddenly, behold I come without announcement, behold I come without blowing any trumpet, behold I

come as a thief, blessed is he that watches, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked and to see his shame. We're going to watch, we're going to get ready, and when the Lord comes, he'll find you ready in Jesus' name. Why don't we rise up now and talk to the Lord in prayer, and say Lord, thank you for the Word, thank you for the Revelation, thank you for the fact that I remember now you're coming again.

Lord I thank you, Lord I thank you, I thank you, I know you're coming again, and as I know you're coming again, I want to be ready, open your mouth and talk to the Lord in prayer.

There's not so much in our lives during this retreat, it's reminded us of salient truths, important truths during this retreat, no doubt you have preached, even before this time, but now it wants you to top up that prayer, increase that prayer, and say Lord, with all the blessings of God, with all the blessings I'm still expecting, there's one thing remaining, I want to be ready when you come, I want to be ready when you come, tell the Lord, tell the Lord, tell the Lord, tell the Lord, you will be ready, Lord I'll be ready, Lord I'll be ready, Lord I want to be ready, I want to be ready when he comes, it is so certain he's coming again, the angels have found it, he's coming again, Christ revealed it, he's coming again, the spirit of God witnessed to it, he's coming again, the apostles

preached it, emphasized it, advised it, reiterated it, he's coming again, the church from the first century to this century has re-emphasized over and over again, he's coming again, the people of God with all their heart, all their soul, their mighty belief, he's coming again, he's coming, he's coming, he's coming again, we're sure the spirit of God being witnessed with the scriptures, he's coming again, and with all the signs taking place around us, we know that he's coming again, you don't want to be swept off your feet by the chaos of this life, by the deceitfulness of preaches, by deceptive, by deceptive antics of the false prophets, by the wrong emphasis of worldly preaches, you want to be ready when he comes, you want to be ready when he comes, you want to be ready when he comes,

readiness, readiness, readiness, check up, backsliders will be disappointed, check up, worldly people will be disappointed, check up, superficial Christians will be disappointed, check up, bread and butter Christians will be disappointed, check up, Christians who go back into the world, they still go to church, but the practice of the world, the pattern of the world, the language of the world, the lifestyle of the world, the celebration of the world, the drunkenness of the world, the merriment of the world, a solid of the Christian lives, they believe sanctification in the head, it's not in the heart, they'll be disappointed on the final day, check up your life, check up your life, watch, watch, watch and be ready, those who are deceived by signs and lying wonders will be surprised on

that day, watch and be ready, those who just collect messages, collect messages, hear messages, they never walk on there, they never pray on there, the messages don't transform their lives, they just have it in their head and have it on paper, they don't watch, they don't watch, they don't watch, they'll be disappointed on that day, foolish virgins, foolish virgins, foolish virgins will be disappointed, watch, those who go from Christian conference to Christian conference, they're here now at this retreat, instead of meditating on what they have heard, praying on what they have heard, living by what they have heard, they go to another conference, I hear something else is taking place here and there, they go hop and hop and hop from conference to conference, retreat to retreat, but they

don't watch, what's she there for, what's she there for, and pray always, that you'll be accounted to escape all the calamities that will come upon the people of the world, it will come upon them unawares, watch, be ready when it comes, be ready when it comes, be ready when it comes, it's coming again, it's coming

again, my father has had so many mansions, if it were not so I would have told you, I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, I will come again, I will come again and receive you unto myself, but where I am there you will be also, you want to be in heaven, he wants you to be in heaven, but watch, but watch, just watch every day, watch every day, watch every day, watch every day, that satan will not take over your life, the flesh

will not take over your life, watch every day, that the world will not get back into you again, watch every day, that the language of the world will not come back into your heart, so the world will not come back into your watch, that that holiness will remain intact, that sanctification will remain intact, that you will not allow the devil to toy, to toy, but your Christian experience, watch, the grace of God is available, receive more grace, the love of God is overwhelming, receive more of his love, the mercy of God is inexhaustible, plunge yourself more and more and more into that mercy of God, inexhaustible mercy of God, watch and be ready, watch and be ready, watch and be ready, watch and be ready, you be ready, you will be ready, in Jesus name we pray, the watchful people of God,

ready people of God, in Jesus name we pray, heavenly minded people, heavenly minded saints, because we are going there, I said we are going there, what are you, we are going there, and you will be there in Jesus name, you will be there, your pastors will be there, the walkers will be there, our choir will be there, our church will be there, ushers will be there, our children will be there, our leaders will be there, we'll be there together, what are you, I said we'll be there together, we'll be there in Jesus name, every rope of the devil that will tie you down, will break everything, will destroy everything, every attitude of the world, whatever it is that will say you'll not get to that place, that mansion on high, that home on high, that beautiful temple on high, anything that will

hinder you, we're going to walk against it and preach against it and pray against it, anything that will hinder you, we're going to destroy it away from your life, you will be there in Jesus name, what a wonderful, it's been wonderful as we are here together, if it can be so wonderful on us like this, think about it, when you get to heaven, and you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and Peter and Paul and all those people, and you'll see me as well, and then we're close together, my mansion is near your mansion, your mansion is near my mansion, and then we'll see every time, and then there's a crown upon your head, and a white robe is upon you, and then we're matching up forever and ever, forever and ever, and we're all there together, it will be a glorious time in Jesus name, you'll be

there, I said you'll be there, I said you'll be there, where are you, where are you, Father in the name of Jesus, we thank you because you have told us Christ is coming again, he's coming for us, he's coming for us, he's coming for this my brother, he's coming for this my sister, and oh Lord I pray he's coming for those who are children, who are youth, and I pray none of us will be missing in Jesus name, Lord we'll be there, Lord we'll be there, Lord we'll be there, none of your people here, none of your people here in the word of God today will miss it in Jesus name, give us more oil, give us more grace, give us more love, give us more power, give us more understanding, give us more revelation, anything that will hinder us from being there, oh Lord we reject in Jesus name, hell is for

the devil, hell is for Satan, hell is for his angels, heaven is for us, heaven is for us, heaven is for us, we will be there in Jesus name, I pray Lord everything you need to do in every life, I pray that you will do, there will be no hindrance, we'll be there on that final day in Jesus name, and between now and that time, between now and that time, everything we need, whether it's healing or deliverance or dominion or marriage or wife or husband or children or job or food or clothes, everything we need, supply the needs of

your children in Jesus name, and then on that final day when the saints of God go marching in, saints of God go marching in, oh Lord I pray every one of us will be there in Jesus name, confirm it in every life, confirm it in every life, confirm it in every life, in

Jesus name we pray, and everybody said, now hold on, hold on, save your clapping, save your clapping now you have something to clap about, you know tomorrow next morning, tomorrow next morning, we're talking about victory, think about this, you never saw this before, 365 days of continual uninterrupted victory, victory, victory, victory, victory, everybody shout victory, everybody shout victory, uninterrupted victory from January 1 to February 1 to March 1 to December 1 to December 31st, victory, victory, victory everywhere, I'm eager for tomorrow morning to come, and when tomorrow morning comes, come on, come on, tomorrow morning comes now choir, choir, now normally we don't sing for faith, but you know tomorrow I want to hear victorious singing, and victorious orchestration, come with

your instrument, come with your everything, and give us victory, lead us into victory, you know that time we're at celebration, can we celebrate tomorrow morning, and so choir, church wants to celebrate victory tomorrow morning, and so you come and give us victorious music, and then tomorrow everybody say tomorrow, I said everybody say tomorrow, you know some people, they'll be in a hurry, they'll not get the key for the following year, the key for victory, they say, they pack their load, they pack their load, and then they're running to the road, but me, me, I'll be here tomorrow morning, my brother, where are you there, where are you there, and sister, where are you there, tomorrow, 365 days, maintaining 365 days of unyielding victory, we'll be there in Jesus' name, and everybody say it!

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