

## WATCH AND BE READY

**Matthew 24:42-44** Jesus spoke very plain about His second coming. His admonition regarding being watchful and ready means there should be nothing at any time that is hindering us from being ready to meet Him and to be prepared to answer for our actions as a Christian.

## READY TO ANSWER

**II Corinthians 13:5** It is always prudent to examine or prove to ourselves from time to time that our believers walk and service is aligned with what the bible teaches and that we are in God's will.

**I Corinthians 11:28-30** Paul lets us know that when there is no self-examination with believers, trials, tribulations and even death can occur if our life does not bring honor and glory to Jesus Christ.

**Galatians 6:4; II Corinthians 10:12** When we prove ourselves or measure our Christian walk to the standards of scripture we do well. We should not measure our service against another believers service.

**I John 3:19-24** We should not rest or delay to be in much prayer until we are sure and positive that all is well between God and us. If we have a heavy, troubled heart we should immediately get it right!

**Matthew 7:5** How can we be effective in our witness and service for Christ if we ourselves have not taken care of our own sin issues? How can we tell others to be faithful in church if we are not? Why should others listen to our pleading regarding salvation if our lives are not clean? Why should others hear us when we teach and witness about gossip if they hear us talk down about people? Do we try to witness about honesty but do everything we can to cheat on taxes and never tithe or give to missions?

**Matthew 25:10; Luke 21:34-36** When Jesus comes for His bride He wants and deserves a people that have made themselves ready. It requires taking heed, it requires denying self, it requires watching and praying for ourselves and for others. It is little wonder that Jesus asked, "will I find faith on the earth when I come?" (**Luke 18:8**).

## READY TO GET STIRRED

**Amos 6:1; Revelation 3:16-17** God is watching us and He is not happy with those of us that have lost the zeal, love and fervor we once had for Him. If the tender wooing of the Holy Spirit is coming less and less in order to get our attention to pray or help someone in need we should be very alarmed.

**Luke 10:38-42** We often lose sight of the fact that often times our service to God and for God is hampered by our willingness to "go through the motions" of serving when in fact we are stressed out about our own hardships and are not really willing to set ourselves aside and to really honor Him.

**I Corinthians 16:14** When we find ourselves handing out a tract, going to church, acting out our service to God through habit and without the attitude of humility and Christian love we must STOP and REPENT of our selfishness and remember that nothing is accepted by God that is not done out of love.

**John 13:35; 15:12; I John 4:7, 12, 16** The love we have for Christ, for His church and for our brethren is one of the most resounding proofs of our everlasting relationship with God.

## READY TO OCCUPY

**Ephesians 5:17; Luke 19:13** The Lord wants and deserves His people to stay busy in His will as we wait in great anticipation for His coming. We must not drift along in idleness and self-indulgence just because we live in that type of environment. We must serve and be involved in the Great Commission.

**Matthew 6:33** Regardless of our station in life we are to put Christ and others as our top priorities.

**I Corinthians 12:4-7** Every believer is important to God and to His church. When just one believer ignores and refuses to utilize their spiritual gift it hurts, it wounds and hinders the church to honor God.