

The Upside Down Kingdom Be Ready

Theme of these 3 parables:

We are to be ready at all times. We are to live today like Jesus is coming back at any moment which means we are to be diligent faithful servants, carrying on His work and commands, but looking towards the day when He does come. Each day we are closer to this event.

Read Matt. 24:42-51

Read Rom. 13:11-14

Read 2 Peter 3:3-4, 8-9

* From these verses, contrast a faithful and unfaithful servant:

"We have time" is a lie. In the Church, we say Jesus' return is "imminent"Def.: something is about to happen, to occur at any moment; impending

* How do people deceive themselves (including Christians) about Jesus' imminent return? What does this cause them to do?

Procrastinate def.: delay or postpone action; put off doing something; to defer action; delay

* In what ways can we procrastinate in doing what God has called and/or commanded us to do?

"It's easier to slide than to stay prepared."

* For the Christian, what does "slide" and "prepared" look like?

Read Matt. 25:1-13

* What was the only duty of these virgins?

Read 1 Cor. 9:24-29

Read Heb. 12:1-2

* From these verses, what are we to be:

Why?

Three points from this lesson:

1. **Read** Gal. 6:9

- * What are we not to do?
- * What is the "good" Paul is talking about here?

Read Isa. 40:31

* What can we do to not grow weary?

2. Be on the Alert and Sober

Read I Thes. 5:4-8

- * What does it mean to be "sober"? Is this just abstaining from alcohol?
- * What are we *not* to be doing during this time of being alert and sober? What are we to be doing during this time of being alert and sober?
- * What would you like to be found doing the moment Jesus returns?

Rhetorical question: Is there any activity in your life right now that you would not want to be found doing the moment Jesus returns?

3. **Read** Rev. 19:7-9, 22:20

- * What is our attitude to be?
- * What is the cloth made of that we are using to sew the dress for our Wedding Day?

Final thought: "We don't have forever, but we do have today." How can this be an encouragement to us?