



ARE YOU READY?

Lesson Title: Are You Ready? (Zeal for Heaven)

Key Verses: luke 17:26-36 (NKJV)

Summary

The sermon emphasizes the importance of being spiritually prepared for the imminent return of Jesus Christ, urging believers to maintain their focus on eternal matters rather than earthly pursuits while actively spreading the gospel. It cautions against complacency and underscores the need for a genuine, committed relationship with God in anticipation of end-time events.

Key Takeaways

1. Jesus's return is imminent and we need to be prepared.
2. The rapture and the second coming of Christ are distinct events.
3. God will protect believers from His wrath during the tribulation period.
4. We should live with an awareness of Christ's return while still fulfilling our earthly mission.

4 Practical Ways To Have Zeal For Heaven:

- 1. Be Convinced:** You must be truly convinced that Christ's return is real and imminent. This conviction is essential to live in anticipation of His coming.
- 2. Be Ready:** It's important to be prepared and remain vigilant, similar to the wise virgins who had enough oil while waiting for the bridegroom. This includes spiritual preparedness and being active in your faith journey.
- 3. Be Informed:** Understanding the times and being aware of prophetic events allows believers to live with peace and purpose, not fear. This means engaging with scripture and theological insights to know what to expect and how to respond.
- 4. Be Missional:** As believers, we are called to be on a mission. This involves sharing the gospel and being a witness to others, helping them understand the reality of Christ's return and the need for salvation. It's about expressing your faith through action and outreach.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon taught the difference between biblical words and biblical constructs. How does understanding this difference help us interpret Scripture better?
2. How can we balance living with an expectation of Christ's return while still being fully engaged in our earthly responsibilities and missions?
3. In what ways might the stories of Noah and Lot be relevant to our modern society? How do you see parallels between their times and ours?
4. In light of the sermon's message, how can we effectively communicate the urgency of salvation to others without resorting to fear tactics?

Practical Applications (pick one for this week)

1. **Commit to reading and studying** the biblical passages mentioned in the sermon (1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, Revelation, Daniel 7) over the next week.
2. **As a group**, brainstorm ways you can be more **"missional" in your community**. Choose one idea to implement together in the coming month.
3. **Identify one person** in your life who doesn't know Christ and commit to praying for an opportunity to share the gospel with them this week.
4. **Practice explaining** the concept of the rapture and Christ's return **to another group member**. This will help you become more comfortable discussing these topics with others.