

The Second Coming Surprise

Matthew 24:36-44

Introduction: How many of you use a _____? Why do we use a calendar?

However, there is one thing that NO ONE will ever be able to schedule or put on a calendar: **You cannot schedule the _____ of Jesus Christ.**

I. Be _____ – 24:36

³⁶ *“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.*

_____ is knowing that God knows everything, and you and I know a little (a very little), and that only God knows when Jesus Christ will return for the second time.

History is littered with date-setters who were certain they had deciphered the code:

Every date setter that I have heard about in my ___ years as a preacher have been wrong. Scripture would call them false prophets.

Can I ask you who is doing the teaching here in verse 36? It is Jesus Christ Himself, and He clearly taught:

Humility is submitting to God's plan without having to fully understand how it's going to be carried out. As believers we walk by faith and not by sight ([2 Corinthians 5:7](#)).

The first point that I want to drive home is to be _____ when it comes to biblical prophecy and the second coming of Jesus Christ.

II. Be _____ – 24:37-39

³⁷ But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Jesus Christ Himself clearly believed that the story of Noah was _____, and He uses Noah's story to teach about His second coming. Look at verse 37, *But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

What was it like to live in the days of Noah? Well, we read in [Genesis 6:5](#), three things about mankind during the time of Noah:

Jesus says that it will be just like the days of Noah:

- People will be _____.
- People will be _____.
- People will be _____.
- _____ in marriage.

The point that I believe Jesus was making was that life will seem to be _____. People won't be thinking about the end of the world or even be aware of the signs of the times. No, they will be caught up in the daily routines of life. From eating to marrying!

So, then how should the believer be living today?

III. Be _____ – 24:40-41

⁴⁰ *Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left.* ⁴¹ *Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.*

What we find here in these two verses is the daily _____ (pun intended). These were the jobs of the day. Men worked the fields and women were busy grinding at the mill.

But they have different destinies: One is _____ and one is left.

Theologians teach that the one taken was caught up in the _____, and the one left is left to enter the _____. One is taken to safety, and the other is left for judgment.

Proximity to believers does not equal _____.

The Bible says, “*For whosoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.*” ([Romans 10:13](#)).

IV. Be _____ – 24:42-43

⁴² *Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.* ⁴³ *But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.*

The word “*watch*” carries the idea of staying _____, remaining alert, and being vigilant.

Jesus made it very clear again when He states, “*For you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.*”

This is the reason why we must watch, and why we must stay awake. For none of us _____ when Jesus Christ is coming again.

Jesus illustrates His coming with a homeowner and a _____. He says, *“But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.”*

- Jesus taught that His coming would be like that of a _____ – [Luke 12:39](#)
- _____ taught this same truth – [1 Thessalonians 5:2](#)
- _____ taught this same truth – [2 Peter 3:10](#)

The point is clear – don’t allow the second coming of Jesus Christ take you by _____. Be watchful, be alert, and be vigilant.

V. Be _____ – 24:44

⁴⁴ Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

What is the message for us? Two words: Be _____!

Ready means that we are living our lives in the light of His _____ return.

Conclusion: The _____ came—but Noah was safe in the ark.

The ark is a picture of _____.

Now, what do we know from this passage of Scripture?

- You cannot know the day or hour, so, **Be** _____.
- It will be like the days of Noah, so, **Be** _____.
- One will be taken and one left, so, **Be** _____.
- You do not know the hour, so, **Be** _____.
- He is coming unexpectedly, so, **Be** _____.

Christ _____ coming again.