

Ready For Jesus' Return

Luke 12:35-41

Luke 12:35: "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning;"

Luke 12:35 (NIV): Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning,

Romans 12:6-8: Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Peter 4:10: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Ephesians 4:16: from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

The church **ready for Jesus' Return** is a church that is...

- **Serving / working** (work to be done!)

Luke 12:35: "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning"

John 8:12: Jesus said I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.

Matthew 5:14-16: You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

John 5:35: He (John) was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light.

Matthew 12:20: A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench.

The church **ready** for **Jesus' Return** is a church that is...

- **Serving**
- **Burning brightly** in the darkness

Parable of the Returning Master

Luke 12:35: "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning;

Luke 12:36: and you yourselves be like men who WAIT for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately.

The church **ready** for **Jesus' Return** is a church that is...

- **Serving**
- **Burning brightly** in the darkness
- **Waiting** for our Master's (Lord) Return

Luke 12:37: Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them.

Luke 12:38: And if he should come in the second watch (9pm-12), or come in the third watch(12am - 3), and find them so, blessed are those servants.

The church **ready** for **Jesus' Return** is a church that is...

- **Serving**
- **Burning brightly** in the darkness
- **Waiting** for our Master's (Lord) Return
- **Watching**
- **Blessed**

Parable of the Thief in the Night

Luke 12:39: 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.

Luke 12:40: Therefore **you** also **be READY**, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you **do not expect**.

The church **ready** for **Jesus' Return** is a church that is **NOT...**

- **Worrying**
- **Fearful**
- **Greedy**
- **Laying up for ourselves treasures on earth...**
but learning from Jesus to **transfer** our assets from **earth** (temporal) to **heaven** (eternal).

The church **ready** for **Jesus' Return** is a church that is...

- **Serving**
- **Burning brightly** in the darkness
- **Waiting** for our Master's (Lord) Return
- **Watching**
- **Blessed**
- **Ready** for Jesus sudden return.

Matthew 25:1-10: "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to **ten virgins** who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were **wise**, and five were **foolish**. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took **no oil** with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom

was **delayed**, they all slumbered and slept. "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and **those who were ready went in with him to the wedding**; and the **door was shut.**"

Matthew 25:11-13: "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, '**Lord, Lord**, open to us!' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, **I do not know you.**' **Watch** therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which **the Son of Man is coming.**"