

“Waiting for the Son of Man” Luke 12:35-59

Please Stand and Open Your Bibles to Mark 13:32-37

Today we are going to be talking about waiting for the Lord. I don't know about you but one thing that I have a problem with is waiting. Whether it's in traffic, in line at the grocery store, waiting to hear back from the doctor or as many of us have experienced the dreadful time spent in the waiting room. It almost seems we spend most of our lives waiting for this thing or that. Sometimes we wait for something so long that we just forget about it or just give up all together and that is what Jesus is going to warn us of today. I will do our best to bring us up to speed on the context as we have spent the last two lessons in Luke 12 which is one long discourse with various warnings for the follower of Christ. It all started with this...

Luke 12:1

In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."

The first warning was to beware of and stay away from the leaven, which is the teaching of the Pharisees. This is

mentioned here as hypocrisy. Being someone that you are not. Playing a part. They thought they were God's chosen ones when in reality they were more lost than everyone else.

This led to a discourse on answering the obvious questions of what to do when they persecute them for not listening to their teaching. They were not fear the threat of death as God loves and cares for you. To be strong in the Holy Spirit as He will give you the strength to confess His name to all. Then the warning to them as one tells Jesus to settle a financial problem with his brother...

Luke 12:15

And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

This leads to a lesson on provision and the worry and anxiety that stems from that. We are not to chase after the things of the world but after the things of God summed up like this...

Luke 12:31-32

"But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

If we are seeking something that means that until we have found it, we are waiting for it. It says that God wants to give it to us. But where is this kingdom? Did it come spiritually after the cross? Are we living in it now? Are we building it? Before we begin our study in our passage today, I want to quickly review what some people think about the kingdom.

We believe in a literal 1000-year kingdom that is coming after the seven-year tribulation where Christ will reign from Jerusalem thereby fulfilling all the promises to Israel and the world. This is the kingdom we are waiting for. Because * of this viewpoint we are called “Premillennial” meaning Jesus will come back before the 1000 years to set up this kingdom. The way we come up with this is by taking what is known as a Literal-Grammatical-Historical approach to the entire Bible. When you hear people talk about the “Kingdom of God” what they really mean depends on how they view the Bible. Two other prevailing views that are in Christendom today are:

“Amillennial”

The Thousand Years is just an allegory for the Church Age
Allegorical-Grammatical-Historical

Made Mainline in the 400’s by Augustine and practiced by the
Roman Catholic Church and Reformed Churches today

“Postmillennial”

The Thousand Years is the Continual Process of Christianizing the World

Allegorical-Grammatical

Made Mainline through Word Faith Teachers and most Hyper-Pentecostal Churches

We believe and teach that the Kingdom has not yet come, and we are waiting for it. We do not teach the “Already here, but not yet Kingdom” and we do not believe that Jesus is King and Ruling this earth yet. That is why the Woke Right uses terms like “Christ is King”.

We do believe that as we are waiting for Him to return that we are building the future Kingdom by winning souls to inhabit that Kingdom to come by the proclamation of the Gospel. With this stated let’s get into our text...

The Watching Servant

Luke 12:35-40

They don’t know it yet, but this will make sense to them after He leaves and goes back to Heaven. All of this teaching we have been studying in chapter 12 is for you and me. We have

been waiting a long time. We have some clues in this that I find fascinating...

Luke 12:35-36

“Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; 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.”

A couple of things that are unusual. First, He is returning from a wedding. Did you know that Jesus often used wedding language in His teaching? If this is the case, what wedding could He be referring to? That's right! The Bride of Christ! Jesus is “Marrying” a Gentile Bride and at the rapture that particular wedding will be over. Speaking to His disciples before His departure He uses more wedding language...

John 14:1-3

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

I don't have time to get too much into this, but He is using Galilean wedding ideas here. Off to build on to the Father's house and when the Father says it's ready He will give the command to go get His bride.

Second, He is the one knocking. The idea here is readiness. In a Galilean wedding the groom comes for the Bride and takes her away to the Father's house. You are to be ready with lamps burning ready for the knock on the door!

Notice it says in our passage that He will have them sit down and He will serve them. That is opposite of the way that it was!

Luke 22:29-30

“And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

Matthew 26:29

“But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.”

As you can clearly see taught by Jesus that the Kingdom is coming and will not be here until He comes and gets us first as stated here...

Luke 12:40

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

Is this just for the disciples? For the Jews in the Tribulation? Who is He saying this too? I am glad you asked!

Luke 12:41

Then Peter said to Him, “Lord, do You speak this parable only to us, or to all people?”

Instruction and Warning to All

Luke 12:42-48

You ever work at a place that as soon as the boss leaves everyone goofs off? That is what is being stated by Jesus. Who are His honest servants? Those that know He could come at any moment and are busy about His work. Who are the hypocrites? (The Pharisees in 12:1) They were not even looking now let alone in the future. The people in verse 45 are not true believers in my view but phonies. They are the ones who we

have been warning that Jesus is coming soon but continue to ignore it. The idea is that they will suffer more in hell than those that didn't know and did the same things as them. This is pretty serious and needs to be addressed. If you are playing around with this thing called Christianity, the warning has been sounded. He is coming soon, and you better get right now as you do not want to be left behind! What is the outcome of those that live with expectancy and enthusiasm of His soon and imminent return? Division!

Truth Always Divides

Luke 12:49-53

If you think that everything is just going to be great and everyone is going to except you now that you became a Christian and got your life all cleaned up, you are in for a real surprise! Standing for and in the truth will always divide. It does not surprise me that people come and go from a church like this. Jesus said it would happen.

Jesus Warns them to Discern the Time

Luke 12:54-56

Now the last two things He brings up in all of this discourse is directed towards the crowds which were a mix of His followers

and those of the Pharisees. Remember it was not that long ago that they were attributing His works to that of the devil and were blind to the fact that He is the Messiah. They were supposed to know and they missed it. What about now? 30 years ago, everyone in Christianity was raving about the rapture but now when the signs are so obvious what are they saying? Now to set up this last statement look at it as an answer to, so what if I fear man and live my life for the things of this world? What if I spend my time worrying about the things of life and not towards the things of God? What if I am not looking for His return?

It Will Be Like You're in Prison!

Luke 12:57-59

Do you feel like you're in prison today? Are you bound all up in your problems? Have you forgot the King is coming? When the church in Thessalonica had got all bound up in and worried about their loved who passed after they got saved Paul reminded them of the rapture and then he said this to those of us that are still waiting...

How To Act While Waiting

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Thessalonians 5:9

For God did not appoint us to wrath (Lit. “The Wrath – The Day of the Lord), but to obtain salvation (Lit. Deliverance From) through our Lord Jesus Christ

Maybe you are here and wondering what is God waiting for?
Peter tells us...

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Maybe the reason the Lord has not come back yet is because He is waiting for you. How much longer will He wait? I don't know but as I said in the beginning of this message I don't wait well and my suggestion to you is to quit your waiting and get saved. And for those of you that are weary of the waiting. Don't give up. We need you in the fight. There is work to do and Jesus is coming soon.