

The Certainty of the Good News

Faithfully Await His Return

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The reward will be great for those who are alert

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Be ready for service and have your lamps lit. You are to be like people waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet so that when he comes and knocks, they can open the door for him at once. Blessed will be those servants the master finds alert when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will **get ready**, have them recline at the table, then come and serve them. If he comes in the middle of the night, or even near dawn, and finds them alert, blessed are those servants.

Luke 12:35-38 CSB

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Luke 12:1-34 teaches the difference between earthly and heavenly rewards:

1-3: Beware the yeast of the Pharisees... *Do not be contaminated by their self-righteousness!*

4-7: Fear God only... *It is his definition of righteousness that matters!*

8-12: Acknowledge Christ and his righteousness... *You will be saved through faith in him!*

13-21: If you store up treasure in this life (like the Pharisees) you will be disappointed

22-34: If you store up treasure in heaven you will be satisfied in the end

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But know this: If the homeowner had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also be ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Luke 12:39-40 CSB

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Will the Son of Man find you alert when he returns?

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Will the Son of Man find you alert when he returns?

The reward will be great for those who are faithful with all they are given

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“Lord,” Peter asked, “are you telling this parable to us or to everyone?” The Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and sensible manager his master will put in charge of his household servants to give them their allotted food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom the master finds doing his job when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

Luke 12:41-44 CSB

The reward will be great for those who are faithful with all they are given

But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and starts to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, that servant's master will come on a day he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the unfaithful.

Luke 12:45-46 CSB

The reward will be great for those who are faithful with all they are given

And that servant who knew his master's will and didn't prepare himself or do it will be severely beaten. But the one who did not know and did what deserved punishment will receive a light beating. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, even more will be expected.

Luke 12:47-48 CSB

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Will the Son of Man find you alert when he returns?

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Are you faithful with what the Son of Man has given you?

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The reward is worth the battles you endure

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“I came to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already set ablaze! But I have a baptism to undergo, and how it consumes me until it is finished!

Luke 12:47-48 CSB

The reward is worth the battles you endure

Do you think that I came here to bring peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on, five in one household will be divided: three against two, and two against three.

They will be divided, father against son,
son against father,
mother against daughter,
daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law,
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Luke 12:47-48 CSB

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Do you live like the reward is worth it?

What to do with this:

Commit twice a day this week to spend time in intentional prayer following the structure and posture that Jesus taught in Luke 11

Add to your prayers a petition to the Lord that he would help you to be alert each day

Households should model this type of prayer together at least once a day

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