

KINGDOM COME

Watching & Waiting

Mark 13:32-37

November 29, 2015

“And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

- **Mark 13:37**

I. ONE SAVIOR - TWO ADVENTS

- The Scriptures promise us two advents of Messiah. One down, one to go (Micah 5:2-5; Daniel 7:11-14; Mark 14:61-62; **Acts 1:11**; 1 Thess. 1:10; 4:13-18).
- Jesus came as a servant; he returns as a king who will set things right (**Rev. 19:11-16**).

II. CONCERNING THAT DAY

- Date setters for the return of Christ can be summarily dismissed; they do not know. Jesus didn't know (vss. 32-33, 35; 1 Thess. 5:1-3).
- The coming of the Son of Man will catch people off guard (vs. 34; Matt. 24:37-44; **1 Thess. 5:1-3**).
- We do not want to be found “sleeping” when he arrives (Matt. 24:45-51; Rev. 3:2-4).
- Jesus' main point in the Olivet Discourse is preparation and anticipation, not prediction (vss. 33, 35, 37).
- Jesus can return at any time. God is not dependent upon anything we do. It's only God's kindness and patience that delay his return (Mark 13:10; Acts 19:10; Col. 1:6; 2 Peter 3:9).

III. HOW TO KEEP AWAKE

1. Pray for watchfulness and perseverance (Luke 21:36).
2. Be faithful now; do what God has called you to do (vs. 34).
3. Live as “children of the light” (1 Thess. 5:1-11).
4. Preach/teach the word (2 Tim. 4:1-8).
5. Keep your clothes on! (Rev. 16:15).

KNOW: What Jesus said to his disciples, he says to us. We are called to stay awake and be ready for his second advent.

DO: Stay awake and stay faithful.

Suggested Reading:

The Last Days According to Jesus, by R.C. Sproul
Standing Firm in These Last Days, by Kay Arthur
How Now Shall We Live? by Charles Colson

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Mark 13:32-37

1. There have been many predictions concerning Jesus' second advent that have proven false. Has anyone in your group been “led astray” at some point in the past by one of these predictions? How did it impact them?
2. Does it concern you that as the Incarnate Son of God, Jesus did not know about the timing of his own return? Why or why not?
3. In what ways has God put us “in charge” while Jesus is away? What should we be doing? Who is promised to be with us while Jesus is away? (see John 14:15-18)
4. What are some examples of being “found asleep” when Jesus returns? Are these “backslidden” Christians or non-Christians? What happens to them if he finds them sleeping? (see Matt 24:45-51)
5. Are there other ways to be found ready in addition to what Pastor Jym laid out in his sermon?