




THE END

The Olivet Discourse



Be Ready

Sunday, July 7, 2024

Matthew 24:32-44

The national weather service says, “the best time to prepare for a hurricane is before hurricane season begins.” If you go to the website for the National Weather Service, they actually provide a checklist of things to do before hurricane season begins. In other words, they are encouraging people to be ready for hurricane season. In Matthew 24:32-44, Jesus is challenging His disciples to be ready for His return.

Key verse: Matthew 24:44 (NASB95) For this reason **you also must be ready**; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.

Key thought: You must be ready because the return of Jesus will come suddenly and unexpectedly!

THE RETURN OF JESUS MOTIVATES YOU TO BE PREPARED!

“The Bible’s revelation, of the world’s consummation, should bring godly motivation!!” Skip Heitzig

1 Corinthians 2:14–15 (NASB95) ¹⁴ But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one.

- Learn from the fig tree (32-34) - Be ready: watch for the signs!

“Seasons are time-markers. To everything there is a season. There is constancy in the seasons. There is constancy in God’s dealings with us. In due season Jesus will return.”

- Learn from Jesus (35-36) - Be ready: heed the Words of Jesus!

- Learn from Noah (37-42) - Be ready: pay attention to your soul!
 - o The days of Noah (Genesis 6)
 - Increased population
 - Increased depravity
 - Increase of violence
 - Unheeded preaching

- Learn from the head of the house (43-44) - Be ready, Jesus could return suddenly, at any moment!

THE RETURN OF JESUS COMPELS YOU TO RESPOND!

1. Be saved

Romans 3:23 (NASB95) For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 (NASB95) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8 (NASB95) But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9–10 (NASB95) ⁹ That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

Romans 10:13 (NASB95) For “Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

2. Be ready (2 Corinthians 7:1, 8-13; 1 John 3:3)

Is there anything in your life that you do not want to have in your hands, your heart, your life when Jesus comes?

“If you want a powerful life there’s a price. If you want a fruitful life there’s a pruning. If you want a full life, there’s an emptying!” Michael Catt

“What did Jesus mean by the word repent? Why does it appear over and over throughout the Bible? The biblical word repent means to ‘change, or to turn.’ It is a word of power and action. It is a word that signifies a complete turnaround in the individual. When the Bible calls upon us to repent of sin, it means that we should turn away from sin, that we should do an about face and walk in the opposite direction from sin and all that it implies.” Billy Graham