

Daily Devotional, October 14, 2020

“Be Ready”, (Matthew 24:44, NKJV)

“Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” (Matthew 24:44)

It is a fact that Jesus Christ is coming back. It is a fact whether an individual believes it or not. God the Son said that He is coming back. When Jesus was asked if He was the Christ, He answered, *“I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven” (Mark 14:62). “To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation” (Hebrews 9:28).*

The believer will either experience physical death, or he or she will experience what is known theologically as the Rapture (First Installment of Christ’s Second Coming, for His saints), *Cf. John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, 5:2,9-10; Revelation 3:10; Compare 2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 with John 16:8-10; Compare Matthew 24:29-31 with 24:36-42.* Either way, the believer goes into the presence of God. That’s a great deal for an undeserving sinner! Thank you, Jesus, for shedding Your sinless blood at the cross to pay the penalty for our sins!

At least seven years after that, the Second Coming will take place, and it will be known to all (*1 Thessalonians 3:13; Jude 14-15; Isaiah 63:1-6; Zechariah 14:4-11; Matthew 26:63-64; Revelation 19:11-16*). Church age believers will be coming back with the Lord at that time in order to enjoy the blessings of His thousand year reign (*Revelation 20:1-7*). After that, the unbelieving dead will be raised and judged with finality, and go from torment to eternal torment (*Revelation 20:11-15*). That’s a very bad deal for the prideful sinner. Totally unnecessary. But choices have consequences. *“I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing, therefore choose life” (Deuteronomy 30:19).*

Friend, if Jesus were to return today, would you *“be ready?”* What would He find you doing? Would you be about His business? Would you be working industriously or loafing? Would you be reading your Bible, or would you be watching mindless programming on television? What things are your heart and mind set on? Note the time right now. Exactly two hours from now, what would Jesus find you doing? How about this same exact minute tomorrow? *“Be ready.”* Jesus is coming back.