

Title: Be Ready. The Son of Man is Coming

Passage: Luke 12:35-40

Draft Summary:

- I. BE LIKE MEN - YOUR KING IS COMING (v. 35-36)
- II. BE HAPPY - YOUR KING COMES TO SERVE YOU. (v. 37-38)
- III. BE SURE / BE READY - HE IS COMING AT ANY TIME (v. 39-40)

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
 - How should we act while waiting for Jesus to return?
 - How can you get ready for Christ's return?
 - How would you live differently if Jesus were to return next week? Consider doing this week what you have been putting off or not doing.
 - What next steps will you take in response to the sermon?
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Introduction

Daniel 7:13

"I saw in the night visions,

and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.

- Who is this "son of man" who is able to be in the presence of God Almighty?

Compare:

Isaiah 6:5

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Daniel 7:14

And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

- God, who does not share His glory to any other - who is this "son of man" where all the nations will serve?

Jesus

- repeated references to Himself as this Son of Man.

Luke 5:24

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home."

Luke 9:26

For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

Context of Passage:

- Judgment is coming.
- Fear nothing except God.
- For those who fear God, He provides amazing amount of comfort: You are more valuable to God than many sparrows, who are not forgotten by Him.

Passage:

Luke 12:35-40

“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

EXPOSITION

I. BE LIKE MEN - YOUR KING IS COMING (v. 35-36)

Luke 12:35-36

“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

Pointing back to the Exodus

- Israelites were told to be ready to leave at any time on the night where the firstborns would die
- Since then, Israel was to celebrate Passover to dress as if to flee

Exodus 12:11

In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD'S Passover.

Point: Be ready so as to leave this world at any time.

- we are His slaves (two ways):
 - By creation by Him
 - By redemption of our souls through the blood of Christ

Be like men

- Command. How? Jesus continues...

who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast

- What to do? Wait.

from the wedding feast

- Picture of heaven
- Wedding feast was happiest of all ancient festivities.
- How does God feel in His return back to His disciples?

Luke 22:14-16

And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

- "I have earnestly desired" = insatiable, deep desire
 - Doubling of a term mean an extra emphasis / exclamation.
- Why would Jesus so desire to eat this Passover?
 - He is eagerly awaiting to return home
- Likewise, we are eagerly awaiting for His return.

Titus 2:13

waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

1 Corinthians 1:7

so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 Peter 3:12

waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

Romans 8:23

And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Philippians 3:20

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Question: If Jesus is so eagerly to return home, how much more are we eager for His return?

so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

- we are to be so anticipatory at the moment Jesus knocks.

II. BE HAPPY - YOUR KING COMES TO SERVE YOU. (v. 37-38)

Luke 12:37-38

Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

Blessed are those servants

- blessed = happy
 - Those favored by God.
 - More than mere feelings.
 - "Blessed are those who mourn"
 - Though not feel it, we are no less blessed and favored in God's sight.

whom the master finds awake when he comes.

- Are you awake and watchful for Jesus' return?
 - Do you make every decision in light of this truth.

1 Corinthians 16:13

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service

- "Truly, I say to you" = assurance of this fact.

Jesus' first coming: to serve

Matthew 20:28

even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

1 Timothy 1:15

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

Jesus crucifixion

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

Jesus' resurrection and ascension to heaven

John 20:17

Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Romans 8:34

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Hebrews 4:14

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Jesus' current ministry of intercession in heaven

1 John 2:1

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Romans 8:34

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.

- This reflects the depth of Jesus' love.
- The more we realize the Gospel is entirely what Christ does for us and never what we do for Him, the more we will actually do things that are eternally valuable.
 - He only thinks of serving us!

John 13:1-5

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside

his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

- "to depart out of this world to the Father"
 - Points to Jesus' ascension into heaven's throne.
 - Not His crucifixion or resurrection.
- In light of this thought, what did Jesus do?
 - Jesus served and washed His disciples feet.
- The more glory Jesus has, the more He serves His people.
- When will Jesus have the most glory?

Matthew 25:31

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.

Luke 21:27

And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

- second/third watch = in the middle of the night.

III. BE SURE / BE READY - HE IS COMING AT ANY TIME (v. 39-40)

Luke 12:39-40

But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.

- Jesus will come again.
- God's promises are sure
 - when He says "will", it will be.

Luke 13:29-30

And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

- be ready, He is coming = that is certain
- Live like He died last night, rose this morning, and will come before nightfall.

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.