

Something to Be and Something to Do

Matthew 24:32-44

Christmas is a celebration of the fact that the One who came is the One who will _____. Jesus Himself taught about His return in Matt. 24:32-44.

The disciples asked Him two questions: "When will ____ happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the ____ of the ____?" Verses 24 and following mark the point at which Jesus shifts from answering the 1st question to the 2nd one.

Earlier in the sermon, Jesus gave His disciples some clear signs of the coming destruction of the _____ so that they could escape when it happened. In vs. 36, He shifts focus to His _____. He said it would be the opposite before His 2nd coming—like the days of Noah. Everything will seem _____ and suddenly Jesus will return.

Jesus' focus was on _____ which involves being something and _____ something. Be ready means to have made _____ with God through Jesus Christ. By receiving Christ, your sins are forgiven, and you end your _____ relationship to God.

The 2nd way to be prepared is to do something: "keep watch." Jesus's reason for us to keep watch was about the _____.

The thief we face can no longer kill us spiritually, but he can steal precious _____ possessions by _____ us. Satan tempts us to live by the standards and priorities of the world. When we do that, we _____ for him to steal the things Jesus is trying to _____ in us and _____ us.

When we who know Jesus don't feel _____, or seem always to feel anxious and upset, or maybe we can't _____ the people who hurt us, could it be that we are ready, but not _____. If we don't keep watch over our lives and our attentiveness—our obedience—to God's word, Satan will _____.

Jesus is coming, _____ and without _____. Be _____ and then _____.