

The Saviour – Returning

This week – We learn of The Saviour’s promised return at the end of time.

“Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord shall come.”
Matthew 24v42

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Matthew 25v1-13 (The parable of the 10 virgins)	
Monday	Matthew 24v1-21 (Christ foretells the end of time)	
Tuesday	Matthew 24v22-36 (Christ will return with great glory)	
Wednesday	Matthew 24v37-51 (As certain as Noah’s Flood)	
Thursday	John 14v1-15 (The Lord promises to come again)	
Friday	John 14v16-31 (The Lord promises The Comforter)	
Saturday	Matt 7v13-29 (Not all that saith, ‘Lord, Lord’, shall enter)	

Important Lesson for us Today: What are the disadvantages of being a Christian? There are none! Don’t listen to the trick of the devil that it’s a hardship to give up the love of self, pride, this world and all its’ forms of sin in order to be a Christian. The benefits when we come to Christ in faith (the gift of God), with sincere repentance for our sin, far outweighs sin’s short-lived pleasure which only brings long-term emptiness and misery. **What are these blessings?** Eternal peace and assurance of Heaven; close fellowship with God our Creator and Saviour; a daily prayerful walk with God desiring to please and grow more like our Saviour, Jesus Christ, by resisting temptation (Sanctification); being fulfilled by serving Him in witness and worship; faithfully looking forward to the Saviour’s promised return.

Hymn 301 – Our hymn reminds us of our waiting for the glorious second coming of the Saviour.

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| <p>1. I am waiting for the dawning
 Of the bright and blessed day,
 When the darksome night of sorrow
 Shall have vanished far away:
 When, for ever with the Saviour,
 Far beyond this vale of tears,
 I shall swell the song of worship
 Through the everlasting years.</p> | <p>3. I am waiting for the coming
 Of the Lord Who died for me;
 O, His words have thrilled my spirit,
 ‘I will come again for thee.’
 I can almost hear the footfall
 On the threshold of the door,
 And my heart, my heart is longing
 To be with Him evermore.</p> |
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The Saviour Returning – Exactly As He Promised.

- **Introduction – Do we live in a world that will never end?**
 - Many mistakenly say, “The world will always be, it has evolved over millions of years.” Some argue that man can influence the continuing existence of the world. **But God has said He will end it at His appointed time. Maybe soon.**
- **God’s Accurate Prophecies and Promises.**
 - **Short-term – Immediate.** Christ prophesied His arrest, false trial, and crucifixion (AD 33), and the destruction of the Temple, which came true in AD70.
 - **Long-term – Until the end of time – These are happening now: -**
 - Increase in wars, famines, pestilences, epidemics (Covid19), earthquakes, etc. In contrast, men say they can improve things; looking forward to ‘Utopia’.
 - The Christian Gospel would be preached to every nation.
 - False prophets with their false religions would seduce many people.
 - **The Lord has promised to return, to judge the world and usher in eternity.**

Will you be ‘caught out’, unprepared for this certain and awesome event?

- **The Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids and The Wedding.**
 - The eastern bridegroom came at night to begin the marriage ceremony.
 - The bride and her friends had looked forward to this day for a long time.
 - But 5 bridesmaids were foolishly unprepared, and missed the bridegroom.
- **The meaning of the parable: -**
 - **Jesus Christ - the Bridegroom.** How wonderful that the Lord likens His return to bringing his beloved Bride, (all true believers), home to Heaven.
 - **The Bride and the Wise Bridesmaids.** - All those who look forward to His coming, in repentance and faith, will be welcomed into Heaven.
 - **The Foolish Bridesmaids.** – They tried to borrow the ‘oil of faith’ from others. All who are careless and not serious in seeking the Lord now, believing that when the Lord comes, He will accept them as they are, will be disappointed. Sadly, the Lord will reject them, saying, **“I know you not.” Matthew 25v12** Some believe everyone will go to Heaven. This parable teaches us otherwise.
 - **The Bridegroom Tarried.** - He delayed His coming. **The Lord foretold this almost 2,000 years ago.** We may be tempted to think He will never come. We do not know when the Lord will return. It is His Sovereign choice and He has already set the date when it will happen. **Maybe very soon.**

Be warned. There are only 2 groups of people – those ready and expectant for the Lord’s return, and those who are not. Which group are you in?

The Lord warns us, ***“Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man (the Bridegroom), cometh.”*** *Matthew 25v13*