

“Set the Alarm Clock!”

Mark 13:32-37

INTRODUCTION: Ugh: *Morning alarm clocks & wake up calls...*

- I. JESUS WILL RETURN AT THE END OF THE WORLD
 - A. No one knows when (v.32)
 - B. Scripture doesn't tell us when (1 Thess. 5:1-2)
 - C. So what are we to do in the meantime? (v.33)
 - D. *Sir Ernest Shackleton's men at the South Pole*
 - E. We are remaining faithful & alert

- II. WE ARE TO BE WATCHING AND READY
 - A. Are your “bags packed” for your death... for judgment day... why are so many of us unprepared?
 - B. This day can come when we least expect it
 - C. Doorkeepers are ready at “evening, midnight, cock crow, dawn” (v. 35)

- III. SO MANY TODAY HAVE “NODDED OFF”, HAVE CEASED WATCHING, ARE TOTALLY UNPREPARED
 - A. Today's text likens them to doorkeepers “catching ’40 winks” (v. 36-37)
 - B. Why do so many around us “nod off?”
 - C. The coming tragedy brings to mind *79 A.D. Pompeii & explosion of Mt Vesuvius...*

- IV. WHAT DOES IT MEAN, CHILD OF GOD TO BE READY FOR JESUS' RETURN?
 - A. Today's second lesson from Jude tells us!
 - B. *Be built up in the holy faith* (v.20): faithful in Word & Sacrament
 - C. *Keep ourselves in God's love* (v.21): staying close to our Saviour

- D. Showing mercy to the weak (v.22)
- E. *Snatching others from the fire* (v.23)
- F. Hating sin & ungodliness (v.23)
- G. Upheld by Jesus (v.24)
- H. **NOTE:** The three wonderful things Jesus does for you now & at the day of judgment (v. 24)

CONCLUSION: *Hooray for alarm clocks & wake-up calls!*

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