



SERMON OUTLINE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017

Ready or Not... Here He Comes!

(Mark 13:33-37)

INTRODUCTION: *The children's hide & seek game:
"Ready or not... here I come!"*

I. READY OR NOT... JESUS IS COMING

- A. The early church lived on "tiptoes" (Mark 13:33)
- B. We at times live on tiptoe anticipating the future

II. IS JESUS COMING?

- A. At times in our lives, we wonder
- B. The early church also wondered (Mark 13:33-35)

III. JESUS HAS COME

- A. Jesus said – at evening, at late night, at cockcrow, at dawn
(Mark 13 & 14 & 15)

- B. Everything uncertain in our lives is anchored
in the certainty of the cross

✝ so says many hymn verses:

Never shall the cross forsake me (LSB 427)

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling (LSB 761)

In the cross of Christ I glory (LSM 427)

- C. In the face of all that comes against us,
there are God's promises in the Cross (Jeremiah 29:11)

IV. READY OR NOT... HERE COMES JESUS

- A. Every moment is alive with the promise
of God's future & Jesus' return (Mark 13:37)

- B. In the Church, like nowhere else,
we realize: something is about to happen

✝ **the Creed,**

Baptism,

Communion,

the speaking of forgiveness

CONCLUSION: *The final prayer in the Bible:*

Come, Lord Jesus, come (Revelation 22:20)