

Devotional Thoughts :: BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! by David Wilkerson

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Are you looking and yearning for His coming?

I would never do anything to cause a fellow believer to doubt his or her readiness. Most people reading this message can probably say, "Yes, I'm ready. I've repented and confessed my sins, and I'm forgiven. I have put my trust in Jesus' righteousness and if He comes right now, I know there will be no condemnation toward me. I know in whom I have believed. I'm sure I am His." I would say the same things about myself.

Yet, in re-reading Christ's warnings, I came across something I can't shake off. Jesus commands, "Watch therefore" (Matthew 24:42). Then He says, "But know this" (24:43). In other words: "If you're going to be ready—if you're to be watchful, as I would have you be—there's something you must know."

Jesus then describes a man who thought he was prepared but wasn't. This man's house was "broken up" (24:43). Next, Jesus describes a person who was truly prepared (24:45-47). Finally, He gives an awful warning about evil servants who will be cast into a hypocrite's hell (24:48-51).

The servant who is truly prepared is likened to the head of a household who provides meat for those under his rule. "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season" (24:45). Jesus tells us this servant's reward is to be made a ruler over his master's goods (see 24:47). Evidently, the servant's "giving of meat in due season" is of great importance.

Who are the rulers over households that Jesus refers to here? This speaks of parents. It also includes pastors, who rule over "the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19). So, how does a parent offer "meat in due season"? In biblical terms, meat represents God's Word. The Greek meaning here also suggests nourishment, from a root word meaning "to bring up." Next, the phrase in due season means "at the right time." Christ is saying, "Blessed are those parents who nourish their children with God's Word. They raise them with biblical admonition, while there is time, before it's too late."