

**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING PREPARED
AT CHRIST'S SECOND COMING
Matt 24:36-44**

INTRODUCTION:

- A. This chapter is much misunderstood, and I certainly do not know all the answers to questions concerning this passage
- B. I do know, however, that in this passage Jesus discusses His second coming, assures its certainty and surprise.
- C. In doing this he reminds them of the days of Noah, the conduct of the people and the awful destruction.
- D. As the people of Noah's day ridiculed the idea of destruction by a flood, so do many people today who are filled with the pleasures of this world.

DISCUSSION:

I. AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH Gen 6:5

- A. The wickedness of the people
 - 1. Every imagination of the thoughts of hearts were only evil continually
 - 2. Their destruction due to this extreme wickedness
- B. Character and work of Noah Gen 6:9,22
 - 1. Just and perfect in his generations
 - 2. Found grace in eyes of the Lord
 - 3. God said build an ark Gen 6:14
 - a. Noah did as commanded Gen 6:22
 - b. Ark was built by faith Heb 11:7
 - c. Had not rained before Gen 2:5,6
 - 4. Noah a preacher of righteousness but people paid no heed 1Pet 3:20; 2Pet 2:5
- C. They continued in sins till Noah entered the ark

II. THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- A. The time of His coming
 - 1. Jesus said the destruction of Jerusalem would be in their lifetime
 - 2. But his second coming and end of world no one knows but the Father Mk 13:32
 - 3. It is for our good that God has not told us when that time will be. He wants us to be ready at all times Matt 24:42
- B. His coming depicted as a time of strange separations
 - 1. Two in field, one taken other left
 - 2. Two grinding one taken other left
 - 3. Two of like occupation one taken to be with the Lord other left to eternal condemnation
 - 4. The hypocrites mask will be torn away

- 5. Those who truly serve the Lord will be known
- C. His coming is certain
 - 1. Some think he will not come 2Pet 3:3,4
 - 2. He will appear the second time Heb 9:27,28
 - 3. A day appointed Acts 17:30,31

**III. THEREFORE, THE NECESSITY OF BEING PREPARED
Matt 24:44-51**

- A. Lord doesn't want us to be lost 2Pet 3:9
- B. He will come as a thief 2Pet 3:10
- C. Don't know day or hour Matt 24:36
- D. All appear and be judged 2Cor 5:10
- E. As death finds us so will the judgment Heb 9:27

IV. IT IS POSSIBLE TO BE PREPARED

- A. By obedience to the gospel Heb 5:8,9
 - 1. Faith Mk 16:16; Heb 11:6
 - 2. Repentance Acts 2:38; Lk 13:3
 - 3. Confession Matt 10:32,33; Rom 10:9,10
 - 4. Baptism Rom 6:3,4; Gal 3:27; Acts 22:16
- B. By continued faithful service in Lord's work 1Cor 15:58; Rev 2:10; Matt 10:22

CONCLUSION:

- A. We should be aware of the importance of being prepared at all times
- B. We cannot be scoffers as they were in the days of Noah
 - 1. God had never destroyed the earth before this
 - 2. But when God said I am going to destroy the world he did exactly what he said he would do
- C. We then need to believe what God has said and act upon it in obedience to his will just as Noah did to the saving of his house