

Keeping an Eye on the Sky

Luke 12:35-48

What?

Staying prepared is a must, by acting on our deposit in trust

First the bad news—

This passage contains two parables and a metaphor, along with specific application

Vss. 39-40—Jesus' point for this metaphor is that for those who are not ready, Jesus' coming will be like a thief

It will be **unexpected, it will happen when His disciples will be tempted to sleep, it will involve loss** for the unprepared

Vss. 45-48a—there are two types of disobedient servants here, but three types of disobedience

The first is **an unbeliever, posing as a believer**

Cutting in pieces is symbolic for very harsh punishment

He winds up with the unfaithful in the Lake of Fire

The **other two servants represent believers**, one who knows the Lord's will but ignores it, and the other who doesn't even know the Lord's will, but should have

The beatings are symbolic of entering eternity in this way—

I Corinthians 3:15, ESV—If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire

The Big Question—How do we act faithfully instead?

Vss. 36-38—the point of this first parable is **awaiting and being awake**, since the Lord will arrive suddenly

The second parable will show that this doesn't mean just sitting around watching the sky

Unexpectedly, **the master exalts his servants by serving them at table**

This speaks to us of celebration, satisfaction and fellowship

Vss. 42-44—the Lord sets all believers over a part of his kingdom work (in answer to Peter's question)

Again, **the master exalts those who serve faithfully, blessing them** by entrusting them with more

Vs. 48b—the point is that **the Lord has entrusted a deposit to all believers**, for us to invest for kingdom gain

The expectation is proportionate to what we've been given

So What?

First, you don't want to be a poser—be a true disciple

Jesus gives the application up front—stay dressed for action

This means **putting on your work clothing once for all, and remaining in a state of readiness**

Keeping your lamps burning in the darkness means **keeping the Lord's return front and centre in your mind and heart at a time when you might fall asleep spiritually**

The best way of discovering the Lord's will for your life is **identifying your natural talents and spiritual gifting**

Using them will not seem like work—**it will be a joy**

Make it your goal to **finish well**

The final say—Jesus

Matthew 25:21, ESV—“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master’”

Now What?

Staying prepared is a must, by acting on our deposit in trust

Identify your gifting; search it out and use it

Anticipate the joy and honour of the Lord's pleasure and reward