THE TWO ADVENTS OF CHRIST Matt 24:36-44

INTRODUCTION:

The Two Advents are as Bookends for the Christian. You must believe in both – The Birth of Christ (The First Advent) which has passed and the Second Coming of Christ (The Second Advent) which is yet to come.

• "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matt 24:44).

For the remainder of this message, we will meditate on being spiritually prepared for the Second Advent – The Second Coming of Christ.

I. THE SECOND COMING IS CERTAIN (v. 36)

- A. Christ Promised to Return He Keeps His Promises (John 14:2-3; Matt 24:30; Acts 1:11)
- B. The Timing of the Second Coming is a Secret
- C. The Danger of Date-Setting (Matt 24:23-26; Rom 16:17)

II. THE LAST DAYS – GREAT AND GROWING WICKEDNESS (vv. 37-38)

- **A.** Jesus compared the nature of His sudden and unexpected return to the flood that took place in the Days of Noah.
- **B.** Instead of the world getting better in the Days of Noah It got worse and worse (Gen 6:5-7)
- C. So Shall it be when Christ Comes (2 Tim 3:1-5)
- **D.** They will not endure Sound Doctrine (2 Tim 4:3)
- E. "Many Departing from the Faith" (Heb 6:4-6)
- F. Wickedness in the World Today

III. <u>FAITHFUL WARNING</u>

- A. Noah was "A preacher of Righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5; Gen 6:9)
- B. Noah was warned by God to Build the Ark (Gen 6:3, 5; 2 Pet 2:5)
- C. Just as the people ignored Noah's warning about the impending flood (Judgment), some people today ignore the warning of the impending Judgment (Hell).
- **D.** Keep warning the unsaved of the judgment to come and the Return of Jesus Christ.

IV. SUDDEN SURPRISE (v. 39)

- **A.** Just as the people in the Days of Noah did not know the day of the flood until it came and took them away the same is with the Return of Christ (Matt 24:42, 44).
- B. Comparison of the Days of Noah to the Last Days (The Second Advent)

V. THE NEED FOR READINESS (vv. 40-44)

- **A.** The Time of Separation and Judgment (vv. 40-41; Matt 25:33-34, 41, 46)
- **B. Be Alert and Awake** (v. 42; Luke 12:40; Titus 2:13)
- C. Comparison of the Theft (vv. 43-44; 2 Thess 4:16-17; Matt 26:64; Rev 1:7))

VI. HOW TO BE READY FOR THE SECOND COMING

- A. Prayer and Bible Reading
- B. Stay Alert and Faithful
- C. Live With Joyful Anticipation

CONCLUSION:

- A. "Christmas is the celebration of that historic moment in time when God, in the person of Jesus Christ, stepped out of heaven onto earth for the purpose of saving mankind from sin." Dr. Charles Stanley
- B. "We out to be living as if Jesus died yesterday, rose this morning and is coming back this afternoon." Adrian Rogers
- C. "I never lay down without thinking that Christ may come back before morning." D.L. Moody

D. ABC's of Salvation

- o A Admit that you're a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- B <u>Believe</u> that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- o C <u>Confess/Call</u> on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)



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"...the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).