

“An Urgent Question”
Luke 12:35-40
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What lessons have we learned from the pandemic?

“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” (Luke 12:35-40, NIV)

If today was the day when Christ returned, would you be ready? If today was the day when you were called home to heaven, would you be prepared?

Summary of this parable: We are servants of the master. Our master is coming back. He wants us to be ready when He returns, knowing that He could arrive anytime.

What does this parable say as we deal with the impact of the pandemic?

Is the pandemic a judgment from God that signals the end times? The answer has to be yes and no.

Here are two applications from this parable.

We must always be ready and learn to rest in the Lord. One aspect of this parable that we need to consider is, “Wouldn’t they be tired after waiting up all night?” The answer is yes. They would have been weary. Serving the master was not easy. Sustained readiness is difficult. We see that with masks. People are just done even though the threat isn’t completely over.

Sustained mission is difficult, too. It’s easy to take our eye off of the big picture.

We must live with urgency.

Jesus said in John 9:4 (ESV), “We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.” Paul wrote to the Romans in 13:11 (ESV), “...you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.”