

INTRODUCTION

- * Last week, we saw Jesus address the crowd who was following Him to beware of covetousness. Today's portion is actually a continuation of that teaching. Jesus had warned the people to not be anxious about the things of this world but rather to trust God as their provider and protector. Specifically, regarding financial covetousness, Jesus stated, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
- * Today, Jesus builds upon that warning by reminding the crowd of the judgment that is to come when the Son of Man returns. This is an exciting teaching in itself because Jesus is declaring His death, resurrection, return, and reign all in one short teaching. Additionally, Jesus let's everyone know that there would be a period of time - a gap - between His resurrection and His return, and what His followers should expect to see during that time.

INSTRUCTION**I. THE EXPECTATION _____ THE LORD'S RETURN (v. 35-48; Matthew 24:42-51)****A. The C _____ ... Be Ready!**

1. THE I _____ (v. 35-38)
 - a. Be W _____
 - b. Be W _____
2. THE I _____ (v. 39-40; Matthew 24:42-44)

B. The B _____

1. THE MASTER WILL S _____ THOSE WHO ARE READY (v. 37-38)
2. THE MASTER WILL P _____ THOSE WHO ARE READY (v. 42-44; Matthew 24:45-47)

C. The W _____ (v. 45-48; Matthew 24:48-51)

1. THE U _____ OF THE SERVANT (v. 45-46)
 - a. Revealed in His Treatment of Others (v. 45)
 - b. Revealed at the Return of the Master! (v. 46)
2. THE C _____ OF THE SERVANT (v. 47-48)

II. THE EXPECTATION _____ THE LORD'S RETURN (v. 49-59)**A. It Would Be Characterized By D _____ (v. 49-53; Matthew 10:16-22; 24:9-10)****B. It Would Be Characterized By I _____ (v. 54-59; Matthew 24:32-42)**

1. THE LACK OF DISCERNMENT OF THE T _____ (v. 54-56)
2. THE LACK OF DISCERNMENT OF THE J _____ (v. 57-59)

INTROSPECTION

- * Are you READY for Christ's return? Are you focused upon His Kingdom, or the world?
- * How will you be found when the Master returns?
- * Are you living your life in the manner of someone who is expecting his Master to return at any moment?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How does the topic of Christ's return apply to evangelism?