

Luke 12:35–59

“Serving the Returning Master in Our Tasks at Our Time”

***How should we respond to the reality of Christ’s return?** Pastor leads his family in today’s “Hopewell @Home” passage. In these twenty-five verses, the Lord Jesus teaches us not to focus upon the timing of His return but upon what He wants us to be doing for the duration of the time until then. We are to focus upon discerning our own time, and serving Him with all our might in the roles and tasks into which He has currently placed us.*

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Luke chapter 12 verses. 35 through 59.

Luke chapter 12 verses 35 through 59, these are the words of God. Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning and you yourself be like men who wait for their master when he will return from the wedding that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately.

Blessed are those servants him the master when he comes we'll find watching. Certainly I say to you he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat and he will come and serve them. And if he should come in the second watch or come in the third watch and find them so find them so blessed are those servants but know this that if the master the house had known what hour the thief would come he would have watched not allowed his house to be broken into therefore you also be ready.

For the son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Computer said to Lord, do you speak this parable only to us or told people? The Lord said who then is that faithful and why steward him his master will make ruler over his household to give them their portion of food and do season.

Blessed is the servant whom his best you will find so doing when he comes truly I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has but if that servant says in his heart, my master is delaying his coming and begins to beat the female and female servants and to eat and drink and be drunk the master of the servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and in an hour when he is not aware and he will cut him into two and appoint him his portion.

With the unbelievers. And that servant who knew his masters will and did not prepare or do according to his will shall be beaten with many stripes. But he who did not know yet committed things deserving of stripes shall be beaten with you. For everyone to whom much is given from him much will be required.

And to whom much has been committed of him, they will ask the more. I came to send fire on the earth and now I wish it were already kindled but I have a baptism to be baptized with and now distressed. I am until it is accomplished do you suppose that I came to give peace on the earth.

I tell you not at all but rather division for from now on in five and one house will be divided three against two and two against three father will be divided against son son against father mother against daughter daughter against mother and mother-in-law against her. Daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law then he also said to the multitudes whenever you see a cloud rising out of the West immediately you say a shower is coming.

So it is when you see the south wind blow you say there will be hot weather weather and there is hypocrites you can discern the face of the sky in the earth but how is it that you do not discern this time yes and why even of yourselves do not judge what is right when you go with your adversary to the magistrate make every effort along the way to settle with him?

Last you drag you to the judge the judge deliver you to the officer and the officer throw you into prison. I tell you you shall not depart from there. Until you have paid the very last night.

So far the reading of God's inspired and inherent. Word.

So the Lord Jesus has. Been teaching them to seek treasure in heaven seek the kingdom of God. That their life would not be bound up in what they have in this world but in whom they have in heaven and how they serve him. In this world. And he goes on in this passage to say and make sure that that is your constant focus.

That you have one in heaven who has returning for you and Lord Jesus, of course as gone and he has preparing them for him to go you have one in heaven who is returning for you and your life now must consist not in the things that you have or what people here think of you or any other earthly thing that we are tempted to have our life consist of your life consists of the fact that you have Jesus and he is returning.

And you are to be serving him that's your great focus in this life is to be serving in and he tells the parable let your waist be guarded and we know what that means it means always be ready and at your work very amazing in verse 37 and he says when the master gets home from the wedding, he's gonna guard his waist, he's gonna go to work and what's he going to do he's going to serve them and give them their fortune.

And so he comes he says the master is feasting and you are working and when the master returns he should find you working and when he finds you working when he returns he will prepare feast for you and serve you a feast divide you abortion it's one of the things we have a picture of where in the public worship.

At the supper. Our Lord Jesus feeds us spreads the feast attends the table by his servant on earth, he displays physically breaking of bread and offering it and pouring of the cup and offering it but he himself gives himself from heaven. And that is just the smallest fortest as we show forth the Lord's death until he comes when he personally will attend us and.

It's almost blasphemous to think about if the Bible hadn't told us that the Lord Jesus would wait upon us and serve us. Good thing will be sanctified then because if he had.

If I were to see him trying to do that to me. I suspect I'd be like Peter and say no no Lord, let's never do this and then he would say if you do if I don't do this, you don't have any part in me, okay the new triple speaking of Peter.

Jesus is just finished saying you have no idea when I'm returning your focus needs to be on serving me. It's a Peter says was that just for us what about those people? What did Jesus just say your focus should be on serving me what did Peter focus on those other people be serving you to?

At the the Lord Jesus's answer kind of is yes, they should be serving me but to you much has been given you have been set apart for being a ruler in the house of God Peter and of him to him much as given much as required of him and to whom much has committed of him, they will ask the more now this applies to those who are putting high positions.

If you become a husband or a father of a high position you're called to be a shepherd and your family if you become a mother you have a high position you are called to nurture your children and under your husband should the Lord spare you one rear them in the nurturing admission of the Lord and if someday boys you come into offers that officer ship in the church, yeah and at the open ship.

Much will be required of you and so Peter of course. Needed that rebuke Peter is not always a great example for us but there is someone who is always a great example for us and that's the Lord Jesus. Now the Lord Jesus says he came to send fire on the earth he's thinking about the judgment day, he's thinking about the the division of all of humanity and the two great companies the company of his servants and the company of his enemies.

And he talks about the sending of the fire and the dividing of all humanity in verses 49 to 53 but he says but and he longs for the day it's right for him to long for the day of his return and we should long for the day of his return we learn that many places in Scripture and he says in verse 50, but I have a baptism to be baptized with him, isn't it interesting he describes the pouring out of God's?

Broth upon him from heaven as the baptism with which he is going to be baptized with and how distressed I am till it is accomplished he says, that was the worst part of the cross for him. Not getting mocked by. The Romans and the Jews who are beneath his feet not the nails in his hands and the crown on his head, but the wrath that would be poured out from heaven.

There is fire poured out upon you one way or the other either. The Lord Jesus baptizes you with the spirit and with fire he pours out his spirit upon you and he gives you that cleansing fire or if you are never brought to faith in Jesus Christ by his Holy Spirit, if you are not right with God by believing in him trusting in him belonging to God through him and having his righteousness counted for you.

Then destruction and fire will come upon you from the presence of God forever the apostle. Paul writes to the Thessalonians and of course, you don't want that baptism because that baptism is equivalent to being immersed scripture calls it also the being cast into the lake of fire. But just as Jesus does with the spirit and with the cleansing or purifying fire what we do with the water and baptism he pours that out so also upon him the judgment fire the wrath fire was poured out at the cross and he says I have a baptism to be baptized with so here's Jesus he's longing for the day of his return at the second coming when he will send the punishment fire on the earth.

Or maybe he's talking about. Purifying fire and consider that in verse 49, but it's probably punishment fire especially when he starts talking about the division the great division. He's longing for that day, but that day is not coming yet. First he has to go to the cross. So he's focused on the task that's in front of him.

And he is our perfect example. We should long for the day of Christ's return. But our focus should not be on figuring out when Jesus is going to return. What should our focus be on? The task the Lord has put in front of us. What he has assigned to us?

Serving him right now living the way we will wish we had been living. When we get caught by his return because he's returning at an hour that we do not expect verse 40. And he says you guys work on being ready for the weather and you predict the weather you don't even know what time this is and he's talking to his generation.

It was the time of their visitation and because they did not recognize the Messiah when he visited them. The Lord destroyed. Jerusalem. The horrifying judgment in AD 70, he said, you know, you're on your way to the judge. Right? That's what he's talking about. You're going with your adversary to the magistrate.

Says make sure by the time you get to the judgment your adversary is become your friend. Well, until you belong to God through faith in Jesus Christ. God is your adversary. And he says since you know that you're going to end up at the judgment, make sure that you are reconciled with God through faith in Jesus Christ along the way.

Don't delay. You don't know when your time before the judge is coming. Well, you know is that right now before you get there is the time to be reconciled to God. Have God's turn from an enemy to a friend through faith in Jesus Christ. Let's pray. Our Father in heaven we pray that you would make us each to heed this word.

That we would make sure to know you as our friend through trusting in Jesus and turning from our sin and having Christ's baptism that he was baptized with on the cross. Counted against our sin justice our being baptized with water shows that our sin is counted against him and has righteousness counted for us.

So stir up our faith, we pray that we would be reconciled before we come to the judge. And then I pray that you would also help us to maintain this focus of always serving you where we are at in the time and the task assigned to us rather than being given over to speculation about the time or even like Peter trying to figure out.

What your assignment is for somebody else help us. Lord to be holy devoted to serving you eager that in every moment we might be doing as we will wish we had if that is the moment you return. Help us Lord and Jesus know amen.