

Waiting and Watching for the Master

Lesson # 42: (2T 183-199; Mk. 13:33-37; Lk. 12:35-40; Rev. 22:10-12; Mt. 24:37-39)

In this lesson we will study two very closely related parables of Jesus which describe what His people should be doing while they wait for their Master to return. The first of these parables is found in Mark 13:33-37 and the second is in Luke 12:35-40. We will also take into account some very important information written by Ellen White in Testimonies for the Church, volume 2, pp. 183-199. Let's begin by taking a look at the historical context and the symbols of Mark 13:33-37.

Historical Context and Symbols

1. Mark 13:33-37 is the climax of a sermon which Jesus preached to His disciples on the Mount of Olives. What was the central subject of His sermon? _____

2. Who is represented by the **master** of the house who went on a long journey? The Son of _____. What is represented by the place where he journeyed to? _____
(Mk. 13:34)
3. What task did the master give his **servants** during his absence? “[He] gave authority to his servants, and to every man his _____, and commanded the porter to _____.” (Mk. 13:34)

Watching and Praying

1. In the parable of the watchful servant, what did Jesus tell His followers to do? “Take ye heed, _____ and _____ for ye know not when the time is.” (Mk. 13:33)
2. What counsel did Jesus to His servants as He concluded the parable of the ten virgins? “_____ therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.” (Mt. 25:13)
3. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do as He was about to enter His our of deepest crisis? “_____ and _____, that ye enter not into _____. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Mt. 26:41)
4. What solemn words did the apostle Paul address to Christians who would be waiting for their Master's coming? “Therefore let us not _____, as do others, but let us _____ and be sober.” (I Thess. 5:6)

5. What warning did Jesus give to the church of Sardis? “If therefore thou shalt not _____, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what _____ I will come upon thee.” (Rev. 3:3)

Working While We Wait

1. What must God’s people be doing while they wait for the time to come? Jesus spoke of a certain nobleman who left for a distant land and said to his servants, “_____ till I come.” (Lk. 19:13)
2. **Thought Question:** What were the ten virgins supposed to do with their lamps while they waited for the groom to arrive? _____
(See Matthew 25:1-13)
3. In the parable of the talents, what were the servants to do while they waited for the master to return? “Thou oughtest therefore to have put _____ money to the exchangers, and then at my _____ I should have received mine own with _____.” (Mt. 25:27)
4. How must we treat our fellow servants while we wait for Christ’s return? “But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord _____ his coming, and shall begin to _____ his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken, the lord of that servant shall come in a day when he _____ not for him and in an hour that he is not aware of.” (Mt. 24:48-50; see also Mt. 25:31-46)
5. What did Noah do while he waited for the door of the ark to close? “And [God] spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a _____ of righteousness. . . . By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, _____ with fear, _____ an ark to the saving of his house.” (II Pet. 2:5; Heb. 11:7)
6. What did Jesus say to the religious leaders who maligned Him for healing the man blind from birth? “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is _____; the _____ cometh, when no man can _____.” (Jn. 9:4)

Being Ready

1. What did Jesus say His people must do while they wait for His return? “Let your _____ be girded about, and your _____ burning.” (Lk. 12:35)
2. What did Jesus mean when He said that our loins must be girded and our lamps burning? “Therefore be ye also _____ for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man _____.” (Mt. 24:44)

3. How does Jesus make His people ready for His return? “And he [John the Baptist] shall go before him [Jesus] in the spirit and power of Elias, to _____ the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the _____ to the wisdom of the just, to make _____ a people prepared for the Lord.” (Lk. 1:17)
4. How did John the Baptist perform this work of preparation? “Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. . . . Bring forth therefore _____ meet for repentance.” (Mt. 3:3, 8)
5. What does the book of Revelation say about God’s people being ready for the marriage supper of the lamb? “Let us be _____ and rejoice, and give honor to him for the _____ of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself _____.” (Rev. 19:7)
6. What is it that made God’s people ready for the marriage supper? “And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine _____, clean and white, for the fine linen is the _____ of saints.” (Rev. 19:8)

The Day and the Hour

1. According to Mark 13:33, why must God’s people be ready at all times? “Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the _____ is.” (Mk. 13:33)
2. How does the parable of the ten virgins underline the same truth? “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the _____ nor the _____ wherein the Son of man _____.” (Mt. 25:13)
3. What solemn warning did Jesus give to the church of Sardis? “Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold _____, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not _____, I will come on thee as a _____ f, and thou shalt not _____ what hour I will come upon thee.” (Rev. 3:3)
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1. **Thought Question:** What event was Jesus referring to when He stated: “Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.”? (Mk. 13:33) _____

2. **Thought Question:** What event was Jesus referring to when He stated in the parable of the ten virgins, “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh”? _____
3. **Thought Question:** What event was Jesus referring to when He stated to the church of Sardis: “If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee”? (Rev. 3:3) _____

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