

Sermon: Living in the Light of Christ's Return.
Series: Luke: The Gospel for Everyone.

Scripture: Luke 12:35-48.
Date: March 16, 2025

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Do you believe Christ could return at any moment? Why or why not?
- b) Using verses 35-40, what does it mean to live in light of Christ's return? In what ways have you become "sleepy" as you await Christ's return (living for temporal things, feeling unworthy or ungifted, failing to live sacrificially, becoming lazy concerning sin, etc.)?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Jesus introduced the idea of hell and judgment in 12:5. Here again he speaks of God's judgment (v.46-48). Why is it so important to our understanding and faith in God that he punishes injustice and rights wrongs? Why is this important to you personally?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Look at verse 37 again. Does this description of Heaven surprise you? How does the idea of Jesus serving for eternity express/fulfill the gospel of grace?
- b) Read verses 46-48 again. How do the descriptions of punishment here point to the cross of Christ? In what way was Jesus the substitute for the unfaithful servants?

APPLICATION

- a) Our union with Christ empowers us to be the faithful servants of verses 35-37. What specifically would "staying dressed for action," and "keeping the lamp burning" mean in your life – what attitude or behavior may need to change?

PRAYER

- Praise God for his perfect justice and his righting of every wrong.
- Confess ways you have become "sleepy" as a Christian.
- Thank Jesus for his promise to return for us and his service of us for eternity.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to "stay alert" as you wait for Christ's return.