Bible Study Guide



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A Bible Study on Christ's Return, Watchfulness, and Faithful Preparation

Introduction

Ten virgins went out to meet the bridegroom, but five discovered too late that their lamps lacked oil. All had expected the wedding; only some were prepared for the delay. Jesus' warning about readiness goes deeper than knowing the events that precede His return. It concerns the hidden life of faith and the character revealed when pressure comes.

Fill in the blanks from the KJV text, then read the brief explanation.

Bible Study Questions

1 **What does Jesus urge His followers to be?** (Matthew 24:44)

"Therefore be ye also _____: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Readiness is a present experience with Christ rather than confidence in a prophetic timetable alone.

2 **Why are believers called to watch?** (Matthew 24:42)

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what _____ your Lord doth come."

Readiness is a continuous relationship with Christ, not a calculation of dates.

3 **What does Jesus say His followers must recognize is coming?** (Matthew 24:21)

"For then shall be _____, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

Scripture warns of severe trouble. God's people must learn faithfulness and dependence upon Him, not assume they will escape every trial.

4 **Against whom is the Christian's deepest struggle?** (Ephesians 6:12)

"For we wrestle not against flesh and _____, but against principalities, against powers,"

The conflict is spiritual; fellow human beings are not the enemy to be destroyed.

5 **What protects us from entering into temptation?** (Matthew 26:41)

"_____ and _____, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Spiritual preparation requires dependence on God before a crisis comes.

6 **What were the Pharisees trying to do through their questions?** (Matthew 22:15)

"Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might _____ him in his talk."

Opposition may be disguised as an innocent inquiry. Jesus remained faithful without allowing opponents to dictate His spirit.

7 **What can turn away wrath?** (Proverbs 15:1)

"A soft _____ turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."

A gentle response can prevent conflict from becoming a contest of pride.

8 **How did Jesus respond when He was reviled?** (1 Peter 2:23)

"Who, when he was reviled, _____; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:"

The character of Christ is revealed under provocation by patience and trust in the righteous Judge.

9 **How should we treat our enemies?** (Matthew 5:44)

"_____ your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

Christ's disciples seek the good of those who oppose them rather than returning injury for injury.

10 **What did Jesus ask for those who crucified Him?** (Luke 23:34)

"Father, _____ them; for they know not what they do."

The cross displays mercy in the very face of hostility.

11 **Why do the sheep follow their shepherd?** (John 10:4)

"And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his _____."

They recognize his voice through relationship. Spiritual readiness includes knowing and obeying Christ's voice.

12 **What characterizes the sheep of Christ?** (John 10:27)

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they _____ me:"

Recognizing Christ's voice is expressed in obedient following.

13 **What question arose when people saw Jesus' work?** (Matthew 12:23)

"And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the _____?"

Christ's acts of mercy prompted people to reconsider the prevailing claims about Him. Faithful conduct can reveal truth more powerfully than argument.

14 **Why should our lives shine before others?** (Matthew 5:16)

"that they may see your good works, and _____ your Father which is in heaven."

The purpose of service is to draw attention to God, not ourselves.

15 **Why did the wise man's house survive the storm?** (Matthew 7:25)

"and it fell not: for it was founded upon a _____."

Doing the words of Jesus establishes a foundation that withstands trial.

16 **What should people see in the lives of Christ's followers?** (Matthew 5:16)

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your _____, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

The purpose of spiritual preparation is a life that reveals the Father, even under pressure.

17 **In what spirit should we speak truth?** (Ephesians 4:15)

"But speaking the truth in _____, may grow up into him in all things,"

Truth and love are not competitors; maturity in Christ requires both.

18 **What does Jesus say about enduring to the end?** (Matthew 24:13)

"But he that shall _____ unto the end, the same shall be saved."

Faithfulness through trial is the fruit of a living dependence on Christ.

Appeal

Will you prepare for Christ's coming by knowing Him today, learning to hear His voice, and allowing His Spirit to shape your response to difficulty?

Commitment

I choose to prepare my heart for Christ's return by abiding in Him and obeying His Word today.

_____

Signature

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