


Disciples need to be
always prepared for the
return of Christ


Luke 12:35-48

Presented by Bob DeWaay
September 12, 2008



Overview: Dangers to Disciples

- **Luke 12:1** Hypocrisy
- **Luke 12:4, 5** Fear of Man
- **Luke 12:8 - 10** Temptation to deny Christ
- **Luke 12:15 - 21** Greed
- **Luke 12:22 - 30** Worry about life's needs
- **Luke 12:35 - 46** Lack of vigilance due to a delay of the *parousia*



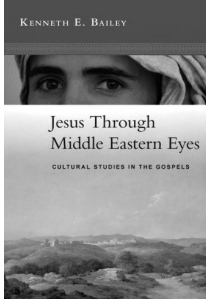
Having belted robes and lit lamps
means always being ready for action

- **Luke 12:35**
Be dressed in readiness, and keep your lamps alight.

☐☐☐

A metaphor for readiness

“A similar idiom in contemporary English might be ‘to have one’s boots on.’ The metaphor in the parable refers to servants who are fully prepared . . .”



Bailey Jesus 369

☐☐☐

The first Passover was kept in readiness

- **Exodus 12:11**

Now you shall eat it in this manner: with your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste-- it is the Lord's Passover.

☐☐☐

If the lamps are not lit, they cannot easily get them in that condition after dark

- **Luke 12:36**

And be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks.



A stunning role reversal: the master takes the role of the slave and serves

■ **Luke 12:37**

Blessed are those slaves whom the master shall find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on them.



There is an indefinite delay

■ **Luke 12:38**

Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.



Disciples must be vigilant

■ **Luke 12:39, 40**

And be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into. You too, be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect.



Leaders must care for the Lord's flock

■ **Luke 12:41, 42**

And Peter said, "Lord, are You addressing this parable to us, or to everyone else as well?" And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful and sensible steward, whom his master will put in charge of his servants, to give them their rations at the proper time?"



When the Lord returns suddenly and unexpectedly, will the stewards be showing wise care for the flock?

■ **Luke 12:43, 44**


Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. Truly I say to you, that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.



Will the stewards be showing wise care for the flock – or not?


■ **Luke 12:45, 46**

But if that slave says in his heart, 'My master will be a long time in coming,' and begins to beat the slaves, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk; the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him, and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and assign him a place with the unbelievers.

 There are degrees of punishment


- **Luke 12:47, 48a**

And that slave who knew his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, shall receive many lashes, but the one who did not know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few.


 We have been given a sacred “deposit” by Christ that must be used accordingly

- **Luke 12:48b**

And from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.


 Applications and Implications

- 1) The Lord's Supper was instituted to help keep us in the state of readiness
- 2) Christian leaders must care for the Lord's flock faithfully and selflessly
- 3) We have been entrusted with the deposit of the faith and are accountable for it

 1) The Lord's Supper was instituted to help keep us in the state of readiness


■ **Luke 22:15, 16**

And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

 1) The Lord's Supper was instituted to help keep us in the state of readiness

■ **Luke 22:17, 18**

And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes."

 1) The Lord's Supper was instituted to help keep us in the state of readiness

■ **Luke 22:19**

And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

1) The Lord's Supper was instituted to help keep us in the state of readiness

- **Luke 22:20**
And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."
- **1Corinthians 11:26**
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

2) Christian leaders must care for the Lord's flock faithfully and selflessly

- **1Peter 5:1**
Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed,
- **John 21:16b**
"Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep."

2) Christian leaders must care for the Lord's flock faithfully and selflessly

- **1Peter 5:2**
shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;



2) Christian leaders must care for the Lord's flock faithfully and selflessly

■ **1Peter 5:3, 4**

nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.



2) Christian leaders must care for the Lord's flock faithfully and selflessly

■ **Ezekiel 34:4**

"Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them."



3) We have been entrusted with the deposit of the faith and are accountable for it

■ **2Timothy 1:13, 14**

Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.



3) We have been entrusted with the deposit of the faith and are accountable for it

■ **2Timothy 2:2**

And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.



Empty rectangular box for notes.
