



## “Death, & The Second Coming of Jesus Christ” Part 2 (Hebrews 9:27-28)

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Jesus came to give man hope in the face of death...crossed over from death to life...

Many people do not have time to prepare for death. Others know ahead of time, yet fail to make decisions that will change their eternal destiny...

No man comes to me unless the Father draws him...

Jesus also promised to come again (verses). And as we saw last weekend, His coming is likely very close.

Power point signs of His soon coming...

Note: Some Christians want Jesus to come, just not right now. They have something they want to experience or accomplish in this life first. I remember wanting to get married before Jesus comes. My son Hayden once said to me that he didn't think Jesus would come real soon because of the opportunity God had given him to be on the Golgotha Skate Team and be a witness through skating. Not wanting Jesus to come right now because there's still something you want to experience or accomplish in this life is not in my opinion unspiritual. With that said, if Jesus did come before your experience or accomplishment, you **will not** be disappointed.

Now, here's a couple of the most fascinating truths regarding the second coming of Jesus Christ:

Despite the clear signs of His coming, most people will not be prepared for His return (Matthew 24:36-39).

Even for His followers who are anticipating Jesus' return, He will come when they do not expect Him (Matthew 24:40-44; I Thess.5:1-2; II Peter 3:10; Rev.16:15).

We may have the privilege of preparing for death, but we will not have the privilege of preparing for the second coming of Jesus Christ. We must be ready at all times.

After death/the second coming of Jesus Christ, we will all face “the judgment.”

The Great White Throne Judgment (Rev.20:11-15; Rev.13:8; 21:27; Luke 10:20; Heb.12:23).

The Judgment Seat of Christ (II Cor.5:10; I Cor.3:10-15)

How to be prepared?

Oil of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 25:1-13 ; John 3:3, 5-6; Rom.10:2; II Cor.5:17; Gal.6:15)

Need more than religious commitment.

Two key signs: Public confession (Rom.10:9-10; I Cor.12:3); Purified life (I John 3:3).

Heavenly Financial Investments (Matthew 25:14-30).

A silver talent weighed approximately 75 pounds, and in today's economy would have been worth about \$250,000. So the amounts distributed were substantial, and probably refers to each individual's pay over a lifetime, at least from the time they began serving their master.

The least the lazy servant could have done is given the money to someone who would invest it. Folks, if we have truly been born again, the least we can do is financially invest in the local church, and ministries that are extensions of the local church.

Remember that a sure sign of Zacchaeus' salvation experience was what he did with his money after he came to faith in Jesus (Luke 19:1-10).

Follow the trail of your time, energy, affections, and money...

The lazy servant did not know his master, seeing him as a hard man to be feared, not as a loving, generous master worthy to be served faithfully.

Heavenly Personal Investments (Matthew 25:31-46).

In the Holy Land native breeds of sheep and goats often run together and can look alike in size, color, and shape.

"Any spirituality that does not lead from a self-centered to an other centered mode of existence is bankrupt" (Brennan Manning).

Stay alert and maintain self-control (I Thess.5:3-11; I Peter 1:13; 4:7; 5:8; Prov.25:28)

- Word for alert in verse 6 is grā-go-re'-ō, and it means **1)** to watch **2)** metaph. give strict attention to, be cautious, active **a)** to take heed lest through remission and indolence some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one. It is the same word used in Matt.24:42; 25:13; Rev.16:15

Keep up your courage (I Cor.16:13).

“Be on your guard” is the same Greek word as above (# 1127, graqoreo). Added to it is a word that means to “be brave.” In a couple of weeks I want to talk to you more about Christian courage.

Persevere (Heb.10:32-39; summarize parable of seed and the sower).

## CONCLUSION

I John 2:28

What do you need to do in order to prepare for death/the second coming of Jesus Christ?