

GETTING READY FOR
THE END
OF THE WORLD

Part 3: Keep Watch
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Summary From Last Week

Bad news: Jesus predicted deception, disaster, death and denial

Good news: Jesus promised the distribution of his word and the deliverance of his church

Eschatology

- From the Greek word *eschatos*, which means “last.” Eschatology is the study of the last days.
- The study of events that will happen involving Christ’s return is called **general eschatology**
- The study of events that will happen to an individual is called **personal eschatology**

Key Thought

We hold securely to what was promised while we wait for what was predicted.

We should focus on what we know, or are to know, over what we cannot know for sure.

Jesus asks us to keep watch. (Matthew 24:42, 25:13)

We are to be ready, to be wise, and to be faithful.

God has given each of us:

Responsibilities to take care of. (Matthew 24:45-51)

A relationship to prioritize. (Matthew 25:1-13)

Resources to invest. (Matthew 25:14-28)

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. – Matthew 10:28

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. – John 17:3

Next Steps: Reflection

Make some time this week to reflect with God on your priorities. Are you wise and faithful:

- In how you watch out for and help others around you?
- In how you protect God as your first love?
- In how you invest your gifts and resources?

Share with another person what you discovered, and ask where they think you can improve.

Small Group Questions



- 1) What was your biggest fear growing up? What are you afraid of now?
- 2) Read Matthew 24:45-51. Who has God given you influence over, and how are you doing? How do you think Jesus wants you to respond to this passage?
- 3) Read Matthew 25:1-12. What do you think the main difference is between the wise and unwise virgins?
- 4) Read Matthew 25:13. What is it that you think Jesus is calling us to watch out for?
- 5) How does it make you feel when you read about how the master treats those who are not faithful and wise?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?