

The Unexpected Hour

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 24:36-51.

B. The solution to the problems of our society will be in the return of Jesus.

II. Jesus is referring this arrival to gather the church not His final coming.

A. His coming to gather the church will be completely unpredictable—it is folly to predict dates for the coming of Christ. No one will miss His final coming to judge.

B. His coming will be unexpected.

C. His coming is unavoidable.

1. We desperately need the Word of God and the Spirit of God so that we might watch appropriately for the signs of the time.
2. Watching is having an obedient ear.
3. We are to keep busy in the strength and purpose to which God has called us.
4. We are to keep doing this until God comes or until we die.

D. His coming is unalterable.

1. At the return of Christ, what we have really been will be unalterable.
2. The one who stands to the end will be set over all of Christ's possessions.
3. The return of Christ simply reveals what a man is.
4. Time is a precious commodity—we are to redeem it.
5. Whatever works do not come from God will be destroyed.

Application questions:

1. What does the speaker mean by referring to two returns of Jesus? Why does he view the return in Matthew 24 as being the first?

2. What does it mean to “watch” for Jesus’ return?

3. How would you respond to a person living in sin who argues that they will repent before their death in order to get into heaven? Explain.
