

Parable of the Wise Servant in Household

⁴² Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

Therefore – this means the watching should be connected to and because of the things Christ has just taught earlier. We watch because we want to be prepared for the coming of Christ, the bridegroom. Again, what are we on watch for?

- That we not be deceived.
- That we not be troubled by the things happening and the things to come.
- That our love for others not wax cold and that we endure persecution.
- That we help spread the Gospel.
- That you not go after false messiahs.
- That we be prepared for Christ's return.
- As we wait...it is important that we practice the steps through step 4, the power and truth of the Holy Spirit is critical to our success and ability to stand.
- Watch to ensure your fires are still burning (Holy Spirit).

⁴³ But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. ⁴⁴ Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

He begins with another parable. Let's analyze in the natural world and glean the spiritual application.

If you are a good homeowner, and you had fore knowledge of when a thief was coming, you would be prepared and watching for them. You would not allow this thief to ransack your home.

Again, what is the nature of a thief, are they usually neat and careful with your things? Are they there as a friend or foe? Do they mess things up and break things in your home? The answer is yes to all of this. So, in the natural world, we would always want to prevent this from happening. We don't want to have our home damaged.

So, Christ uses this example to tell us to also, be ready to guard against thief still today and be ready for His return so that when He comes to the house, it is not a mess or broken up. We need to be good homeowners because we don't know exactly when Christ will return for that visit.

Application for today:

Let's review the elements of the story to this point so far.

Good homeowner = us – our management of the home

The Home = us

The thief = the devil, the world, etc.



The Son of Man = Christ

We need to protect our homes/this life from the devil who wants to come in and mess things up and break things in our lives. This thief wants to mess up things in our home like relationships, finances, focus, our peace, our foundation, etc., and steal your joy and fruit and your hope/peace.

We need to be watchful that he doesn't find his way into our lives and using the Holy Spirit to help us keep watch and be ready to prevent him from getting in and doing damage.

Question (Lauren) – why does the devil want to destroy us? There are a variety of reasons. The devil hates what God loves. Man was created to take over the rule on the earth which once belonged to satan.

⁴⁵ Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. ⁴⁷ Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

The example of a faithful and wise servant. God makes him ruler over the house and provides for them. This servant practices consistency. In doing so, he is blessed for when Christ returns, if He finds this servant doing good things to protect and manage his house, then he gets promoted.

⁴⁸ But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; ⁴⁹ And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; ⁵⁰ The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, ⁵¹ And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

In His goodness, He again provides the anti-example. The evil servant says in their heart/mind, Christ ain't coming today so I can take a break from my watch and do the following: abuse and mistreat other servants/Christians, etc., to party with other drunk folks. Basically, mismanagement of your life. The Lord "shall come" when the evil servant is comfortable, not watching and not aware and then there are consequences for not being faithful and not watching for Christ.

Mismanagement is associated with being a hypocrite. They both receive judgement and regrets. Weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Susan: Observation –to be drunken today, we can be drunken through fear, anger, etc. You don't have to be at the club drinking alcohol in order to show signs of being drunk

Application:

We will need to perform what in my professional experience is called risk management. In this approach, we would identify the risk and then qualify the risk in terms of probability and risk impact. The probability score and the impact score will determine what the risk response should be.



For example, the risk of losing luggage with the airlines probability might be moderate and the impact of lost luggage might be moderate or low. The overall score will determine if you need to accept the risk, avoid the risk, or mitigate the risk. In this example, you might accept the risk. Now, an airline accident has a very low probability but very high impact. The impact is so high that we don't want to accept this kind of risk and will take action to avoid it.

So the question becomes, what is the risk rating for not being consistent in managing our heart/mind? Jesus is saying the probability of being surprised is very high and the risk impact is very high. Therefore, when you add it all up, it just is not worth the risk to knowingly sin.

We need to be about the Master's business, not mistreat others, not put the pleasures of the world ahead of the Master's business.

Give meat in due season to feed souls.

See Luke 12:41-48