

GROWING IN READINESS
#SermonReadiness
Growing God's Way Part 10
Dr. Mark Jackson, November 5, 2017
2 Peter 3:8-13

Mark 13:37 I tell you this, and I say this to everyone: **Be ready!** (NCV)

Three Ways To Get Ready For The Last Days

1. BY BEING SAVED (vs 8-9)

2 Peter 3:8-9 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (NIV)

Why Jesus Hasn't Returned

- Remember God's TIMETABLE

Psalms 90:4 For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by... (NIV)

- Understand God's PATIENCE

2 Peter 3:15a Think of our Lord's patience as an opportunity to be saved. (GW)

2. BY NOT BEING SURPRISED (vs 10)

2 Peter 3:10 But the day the Lord comes again will be a surprise, like a thief. The skies will disappear with a loud noise. Everything in the skies will be destroyed by fire. And the earth and everything in it will be burned up. (ICB)

Luke 21:34 But be on your guard. Don't let the sharp edge of your expectation get dulled by parties and drinking and shopping. Otherwise, that Day is going to take you by complete surprise, spring on you suddenly like a trap. (MSG)

How Jesus will Return

- He will come SECRETLY

Matthew 24:42, 44 So always be ready. You don't know the day your Lord will come... ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready. The Son of Man will come at a time you don't

expect him. (ICB)

- He will come **SUDDENLY**

1 Thessalonians 5:3 People will think they are safe and secure. But **destruction will suddenly strike them** like the pains of a woman about to give birth. And they won't escape. (CEV)

- He will come **SURELY**

Revelation 22:12a Behold, I am **coming soon!** (NIV)

3. BY BEING A SERVANT (vs 11-13)

2 Peter 3:11-13 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, **what kind of people ought you to be?** You ought to **live holy and godly lives** ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and **speed its coming**. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise **we are looking forward** to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. (NIV)

Luke 12:35 **Be ready!** Be **dressed for service** and have your lamps shining. (ICB)

How To Wait For Jesus To Return

- I need to **CLEAN-UP** (vs 11)

1 Peter 1:15 But just as he who called you is holy, so **be holy in all you do**. (NIV)

- I need to **SPEAK-UP** (vs 12)

Mark 13:10 But before **the end comes**, the **gospel must be preached** to all peoples. (TEV)

Philippians 1:20b ... always **be ready to speak out boldly** for Christ... (LB)

- I need to **LOOK-UP** (vs 13)

Luke 21:28 So when all these things begin to happen, stand up and **look up**, for your salvation is near! (NLT)

1 John 2:28 ...stay with Christ. Live deeply in Christ. Then you'll **be ready for him** when he appears, **ready to receive him** with open arms, with no cause for red-faced guilt or lame excuses when he arrives. (MSG)