

# Always Be Ready

*Promise: receptive to Word and Sacrament the Lord will make us ready*

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:8-14; [Matthew 24:36-44](#)  
(First Sunday in Advent, 12/1/19)

*Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. — v. 44*

**Lead In** – No one knows! What part of those words is hard to understand? Concerning that day and hour, Jesus says, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, or the Son, but the Father only. But do you think that has stopped people like William Miller and the Millerites from positing dates. Offshoots of the Millerites, by the way, make up the Seventh Day Adventists...

## I. Reasons Why We Would Like To Know

- If only the hunter knew when deer would come...
- From leader standpoint, urgency moves people...
- Psychics like Jeane Dixon and Edgar Cayce...

## II. As Were the Days of Noah

- Eating, drinking, marrying like everything normal!
- People must have witnessed Noah's building...
- Do we want to be taken or left behind?

## III. The Point Is To Stay Awake And Alert

- Boy Scout Oath...
- Caffeinated coffee is not the key here...
- Being filled with the Holy Spirit given in Baptism!

**Parting Shot** – For years I called it “The Service of Holy Communion” or just “The Worship Service”. But there is a reason I have come on board to call it “The Divine Service”. And that is because we are being served by our Lord. He doesn't need our service! He is lacking in absolutely nothing! But we desperately need what He is so glad and free to give. In a word “Forgiveness” with its accompanying life. And we don't need it only on Sunday...

**Genesis 6:5** The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

**Genesis 6:11-12** Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

**Genesis 6:9** Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.

**Matthew 13:30** Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.

# Matthew 24:36-44 ESV

*No One Knows That Day and Hour*

<sup>36</sup>“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. <sup>37</sup>As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. <sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**Boy Scout Oath:** On my honor, I will do my best To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Explanation:** I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in true faith.

In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church day after day he fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day he will raise me and all the dead and give me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

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