

NHBC BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

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“THE REST OF YOUR TIME – PART 2 “

1 PETER 4 VS 7

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LAST WEEK WE REVEALED TWO OF THE FOUR ATTITUDES THAT A CHRISTIAN CAN CULTIVATE IN HIS LIFETIME IF HE DESIRES TO MAKE HIS LIFE ALL THAT GOD WANTS IT TO BE. THIS WEEK AS WE LOOK AT VERSE NUMBER SEVEN WE WILL FIND THE THIRD ATTITUDE WE CAN CULTIVATE:

III. AN EXPECTANT ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHRIST RETURN (VS 7) CHRISTIANS IN THE EARLY CHURCH EXPECTED JESUS TO RETURN IN THEIR LIFETIME

ROMANS 13 VS 12 THE NIGHT IS FAR SPENT; THE DAY IS AT HAND, LET US THEREFORE CAST OFF THE WORKS OF DARKNESS, AND LET US PUT ON THE ARMOUR OF LIGHT.

THE FACT THAT JESUS HAS NOT RETURNED YET DOES NOT INVALIDATE HIS PROMISE (READ 2 PETER VS 8-14)

REV 22 VS 20 HE WHICH TESTIFIETH THESE THINGS SAITH, SURELY I COME QUICKLY, AMEN EVEN SO COME LORD JESUS.

NOTE: NO MATTER WHAT INTERPRETATION WE GIVE TO THE PRPPHETIC SCRIPTURES, WE MUST ALL LIVE EXPECTANTLY; THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT WE SHALL SEE THE LORD ON THAT DAY AND STAND **BEFORE HIM.**

HOW WE:

1. LIVE

2. SERVE

TODAY WILL DETERMINE HOW WE ARE:

1. JUDGEED

2. REWARDED

ON THAT DAY.

THIS ATTITUDE OF EXPECTANTCY MUST NOT TURN INTO LAZY DREAMERS!

IN VERSE 7 – 9 PETER GIVES “ TEN COMMANDMENTS “ TO HIS READERS TO THEM IN BALANCE AS FAR AS THE LORDS RETURN IS CONCERNED :

1. **BE SOBER** VS 7
2. **WATCH UNTO PRAYER** VS 7
3. **HAVE FERVANT LOVE** VS 8
4. **USE HOSPITALITY** VS 9
5. **MINISTER YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT** VS 10 -11
6. **THINK IT NOT STRANGE** VS 12
7. **REJOICE** VS 13
8. **DO NOT BE ASHAMED** VS 15-16
9. **GLORIFY GOD** VS 16-18
10. **COMMIT YOURSELF TO GOD** VS 19

SOBER – MEANS TO BE “**SOBER MINDED**” - KEEP YOUR MIND STEADY AND CLEAR – IN OTHER WORDS “KEEP COOL” IT WAS A WARNING AGAINST WILD THINKING ABOUT PROPHECY THAT COULD LEAD TO AN UNBALANCED LIFE AND MINISTRY. OFTEN WE HEAR SINCERE PEOPLE WHO GO OFF BALANCE, BECAUSE OF AN UNBIBLICAL EMPHASIS ON PROPHECY OR MISINTERPRETATION OF PROPHECY. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO SET DATES FOR CHRIST’S RETURN, CONTRARY TO HIS WORD:

MAT 25 VS 13 WATCH THEREFORE FOR YOU DO NOT KNOW THE NEITHER THE DAY NOR THE HOUR WHEREIN THE SON OF MAN COMETH (**ACTS 1 VS 6-8 READ**)

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A SOBER MINDED SAINT

1. **YOU HAVE A PURPOSEFUL LIFE AND WILL NOT BE DRIFTING**
2. **WILL EXERCISE RESTRAINT**
3. **WILL NOT BE IMPULSIVE**
4. **WILL HAVE SOUND JUDGEMENT ABOUT DOCTRINAL MATTERS**
5. **WILL HAVE SOUND JUDGEMENT ABOUT PRACTICAL AFFAIRS**

NOTE: TEN TIMES IN THE EPISTLES PAUL ADMONISHED PEOPLE TO BE **“SOBER MINDED “AS WE READ THE EPISTLES WE WILL FIND THAT PAUL WAS ADMONISHING BOTH:**

1. **PASTOR** I TIM 3 VS 2

2. **MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH** TITUS 2 VS 1-6

IF WE ARE **“SOBER MINDED “WE “WATCH UNTO PRAYER “IF OUR PRAYER LIFE IS CONFUSED, IT IS BECAUSE OUR MINDS ARE CONFUSED.**

THE WORD WATCH CARRIES IDEAL OF:

1. **BEING ALERT**

2. **SELF CONTROLLED**

IT IS THE OPPOSITE OF:

1. **DRUNK**

2. **ALSLEEP**

1 THESS 5 VS 6-8 - THEREFORE LET US NOT SLEEP AS OTHERS DO, BUT LET US WATCH AND BE SOBER (7) FOR THEY THAT SLEEP, SLEEP NI THE NIGHT; AND THEY THAT BE DRUNKEN, BE DRUNKEN IN THE NIGHT (8) BUT LET US, WHO ARE OF THE DAY, BE SOBER, PUTTING ON THE BREST PLATE OF FAITH AND LOVE; AND FOR AN HELMET, THE HOPE OF SALVATION. (THIS WAS VERY MEANINGFUL FOR PETER)

YOU WILL FIND THE PHRASE **“WATCH AND PRAY “MANY TIMES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT: *(MK 13 VS 33, 14 VS 38, EPH 6 VS 18 , COL 4 VS 2)***

DEFINE: **BEING ALERT IN OUR PRAYING , TO BE SELF CONTROLLED**

THERE IS NO PLACE IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN FOR

1. **LAZY**

2. **LISTLESS**

3. **ROUTINE PRAYING**

CLOSE: AN EXPECTANT ATTITUDE TOWARD CHRIST ‘S RETURN INVOLVES A SERIOUS, BALANCED MIND AND AN ALERT, AWAKE PRAYER LIFE. THE TEST TO OUR COMMITMENT TO THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST’S RETURN IS NOT OUR ABILITY TO DRAW CHARTS OR DISERNS SIGNS, BUT OUR THINKING AND PRAYING. IF OUR THINKING AND PRAYING ARE RIGHT, OUR LIVING SHOULD BE RIGHT.