

While We Wait on Jesus' Return

10 Things Christians Can Be Doing While We Wait on Him

Jesus is coming again, and that is the blessed hope of every believer. As Christians, we are not called to sit still, grow sleepy, or drift through life while we wait. We are called to live awake, ready, faithful, and full of purpose. Waiting on Jesus' return is not passive. It is active. It is holy. It is a lifestyle of loving Him, serving Him, and staying ready for the day we see Him face to face.

Here are 10 things Christians can be doing while we wait for Jesus' return.

1. Stay ready spiritually

We are to live with watchful hearts. Jesus told us to be ready, because we do not know the exact hour of His return. We should keep our hearts clean before God, repent quickly, and stay close to Him.

Matthew 24:44 (NKJV) says, *"Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."*

2. Keep our lamps full

Like the wise virgins in Matthew 25, we need to keep oil in our lamps. That means staying filled with the Spirit, staying in prayer, and not letting our fire for God burn low. ***We do not want to be spiritually empty when Jesus returns. (This will go with Extra Information at the end of this Biblical Message)***

3. Read and obey the Word of God

While we wait, we need to stay rooted in Scripture. The Bible teaches us how to live, how to endure, and how to discern the times. It is not enough to hear the Word. We must also obey it and let it shape our daily lives.

4. Pray faithfully

Prayer keeps us connected to the Lord. While we wait on Jesus, we should be praying for our families, our churches, the lost, our leaders, and our own walk with God. Prayer keeps the heart tender and the spirit alert.

Luke 21:36 (NKJV) says, *“Watch therefore, and pray always...”*

5. Share the Gospel

Jesus told us to go into all the world and preach the gospel. While we wait for His return, we should be telling others about salvation, repentance, grace, and eternal life through Jesus Christ. There are still souls who need to hear the good news.

6. Love people the way Jesus taught us

While we wait, we should be walking in love. Love is one of the greatest marks of a true believer. We are called to forgive, help others, encourage one another, and reflect the heart of Christ in how we treat people.

John 13:35 (NKJV) says, *“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

7. Serve faithfully where God has placed us

We should be busy doing the work God has given us. Whether that means teaching, helping, giving, encouraging, cleaning, raising children, writing, or ministering, we should be found faithful. Jesus taught that blessed is the servant whom the master finds doing his work when he returns.

8. Live holy and set apart

While the world grows darker, Christians are called to shine brighter. We are to live differently, speak differently, and walk in purity. We should not blend into the world. We should stand out as people who belong to Jesus.

2 Peter 3:11-12 (NKJV) reminds us that we ought to live in *“holy conduct and godliness”* as we look for His coming.

9. Encourage other believers

Waiting can be hard, and the days can feel heavy. That is why we need to encourage one another and remind each other that Jesus is coming back. We should lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ, pray with them, and strengthen one another in faith.

Hebrews 10:25 (NKJV) teaches us to encourage one another, *“and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

10. Keep looking up with hope

We do not wait in fear. We wait in hope. Jesus’ return is not bad news for the believer. It is wonderful news. Our King is coming. Our Redeemer is coming. Our Savior is coming. So, while we wait, we keep our eyes on Him, our hearts full of hope, and our lives surrendered to His will.

Remember this...

While we wait for Jesus’ return, we are called to live on purpose. We stay ready spiritually, keep our lamps full, read the Word, pray, share the Gospel, love people, serve faithfully, live holy, encourage one another, and keep looking up in hope. We are not just marking time until Jesus comes. We are living for Him until He comes.

Let us not grow lazy in the waiting. Let us not get distracted by the world. Let us not become cold in our faith. Let us be found faithful, joyful, watchful, and full of the Holy Spirit when our Savior returns. Jesus is coming back, and while we wait, let us keep living in a way that honors Him.

Extra, Extra, Read all about it! PART 1

Why We Should Not Be Spiritually Empty When Jesus Comes Back.....

We do not want to be spiritually empty when Jesus returns because His coming will be sudden, serious, and glorious. As believers, we want to be ready, awake, and full of faith. Here are strong reasons why:

1. Jesus told us to be ready

The Bible teaches us to watch and be prepared because we do not know the day or the hour of His return. A spiritually empty life is an unprepared life.

2. We want to be found faithful

When Jesus comes, we want Him to find us living for Him, obeying Him, and staying close to Him, not drifting, cold, or careless in our walk.

3. Spiritual emptiness leads to compromise

When people are spiritually empty, they are more likely to fall into sin, distraction, lukewarm living, and worldly thinking. An empty heart is easier for the enemy to influence.

4. We need oil in our lamps

In Matthew 25, the wise virgins were ready because they had oil in their lamps. This points to being spiritually prepared, watchful, and filled up, not running on fumes when the Bridegroom comes. (see notes at the end)

5. We do not want to be asleep in the spirit

Spiritual emptiness often makes people dull, lazy, and sleepy in their faith. Jesus calls us to stay awake, alert, and watching.

6. We want boldness, not shame

When Jesus returns, we want to meet Him with joy and confidence, not regret, embarrassment, or the feeling that we wasted our time and neglected our walk with Him.

7. Empty hearts often neglect prayer and the Word

If we are spiritually empty, we are usually not staying in prayer, not reading the Bible, and not feeding our soul with truth. That leaves us weak instead of strong.

8. Jesus deserves our whole heart

He gave His life for us. He saved us, loves us, and redeemed us. We should want to be spiritually full, devoted, and surrendered because He is worthy.

9. We are called to shine in dark times

As the world grows darker, Christians should be carrying the light of Christ. A spiritually empty believer cannot shine the way God intends.

10. We are waiting for a King

Jesus is not just anyone coming back. He is our Savior, Lord, Redeemer, and coming King. We should be living with reverence, expectation, and readiness.

11. Others are watching our lives

Our faith affects the people around us. When we stay spiritually full, we can encourage others, witness to the lost, and help strengthen other believers while we all wait on the Lord.

12. We want to finish strong

It is not enough to start with excitement and then grow empty later. We want to keep the fire burning and finish our Christian walk with endurance and faith.

A strong closing thought:

We should not be spiritually empty when Jesus comes back because we want to be ready, faithful, full of the Word, full of prayer, full of the Holy Spirit, and full of love for our coming King.

Let us not be spiritually empty when Jesus returns, but full of faith, full of oil, full of truth, and fully ready to meet our Savior.

Extra Note PART 2

In Matthew 25:1-13, the wise virgins are five of the ten virgins in Jesus' Parable who were prepared for the bridegroom's arrival. They took their lamps and extra oil with them, so when the bridegroom came later than expected, they were ready to go in with him to the wedding.

What they represent

The wise virgins represent **people who are spiritually prepared** for the return of Jesus. They are watchful, faithful, and ready. They do not just look prepared on the outside, but they have what they need inwardly to endure and stay ready.

Why were they called wise?

They were called wise because:

- They **planned ahead**
- They **brought extra oil**
- They were **prepared for delay**
- They were **ready when the bridegroom came**
- They entered in when the door was opened

What the oil points to

Many Christians understand the oil to point to things like:

- a real walk with God
- the Holy Spirit
- spiritual readiness
- ongoing faith and obedience
- a life that is truly prepared for Christ's return

Jesus is teaching that we must be ready for His return at all times. We cannot borrow someone else's faith, and we cannot wait until the last minute to get serious about God.

Matthew 25:13 (NKJV) says:

“Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.”

The wise virgins are the five prepared virgins in Jesus' parable who had oil in their lamps and were ready for the bridegroom, representing believers who stay spiritually ready for Christ's return.

Notes:

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Rooted in Scripture. Led by the Spirit. Living for Jesus.

Psalms 119:105 (NKJV) “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”