

# 3 WAYS TO CONDUCT *yourself* YOURSELF IN THE LAST *days* DAYS

## 1 *Peter* 4:7-9

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

The apostles saw the end coming in an inevitable way. Therefore, rather than telling us when the end would be, they instruct us on the conduct that we must cultivate, in order to keep ourselves fulfilling the purpose and doing the will of God, so let us heed the apostolic advice.

The word translated **“watch”** means “to have the alertness of a guard at night.” A night watchman must be even more vigilant than a daytime guard. There may be no indications of an enemy attack until it happens, so he must be hyper-vigilant, suspecting it at any moment. That is the type of **watching** Jesus spoke about.

# BE WATCHFUL IN *prayer*

It is necessary to avoid all distraction, all worry, anxiety and maintain a life of prayer, so that we can maintain our communion with God, which is the source of our spiritual strength. **Luke 21:34 says “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. (NIV)**

To maintain this state of sobriety it is necessary to remain calm, still in our mind and heart and be watchful in prayer (Mt. 26:40).

In Matthew 26:40 Jesus says to the disciples **“Then he returned to the disciples and found them asleep. He said to Peter, “Couldn’t you watch with me even one hour? (NIV)**

It is important to stay alert through Prayer in our lives. The purpose of watching (being alert) is to:

## 1. AVOID FALLING INTO TEMPTATION

prayer must be accompanied by an attitude of alertness this is why Jesus says in **Matthew 26:41 “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”**

This doesn’t mean that we will never be tempted again, we won’t fall into sin because Our spirit grows strong when we pray.

## 2. WATCHING AND PRAYING IS TO KEEP US FIRM IN THE LORD

while we wait for his coming James tells us how we must conduct ourselves as we stay alert in prayer. James 5:8 declares: ***You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.***

Watching (staying alert) is necessary to be standing when the Son of Man comes and finds us doing his will (***Luke 21:36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.***).

# FERVENT IN LOVE

Jesus Christ said in **Matthew 24:12**: '**because wickedness has multiplied, the love of many will grow cold.** That is why the advice is: **"HAVE FERVENT LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER"**, that love is the fruit of communion with God and the filling of the Holy Spirit ***Romans 5:5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.***

This love that the apostle Peter is talking about is the love that is willing to forgive, to cover, to forget a brother's sins; It is a love that is willing to love, even with a brother's failures and errors, knowing that as one has been forgiven and has been the object of divine mercy, in the same way we must forgive the one who has offended us.

**FERVOR** - Intense and passionate feeling.

**This fervor that we must show in love for our brother is one of the most powerful testimonies to show to the sinful world that we are disciples of Jesus.**

# OFFERING IN HOSPITALITY

The last days are becoming faster and faster, relationships are becoming colder each time and interest in the good of others is fading. For this reason, the advice is that we conduct ourselves without murmuring or gossip, open our homes to host and welcome others, share at the table, especially in times of persecution or some financial crisis or calamity, open the home to ministers who carry the gospel from city to city.

Hospitality must be offered without interest in receiving anything from those we host Jesus says in ***Luke: 14:12 Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."***

Hospitality must be done in the best family harmony, under mutual consent of the couple, without complaints or criticism towards those we have hosted, but with love and as for the Lord.

I remember being a kid and having numerous people, families, couples and ministers stay at our house. It wasn't uncommon for me to be instructed to leave my room clean and sleep on the couch or on the floor in my parents room. As the years have gone by, I can say that God has rewarded us for being hospitable to those in need and to ministers around the world.

God is speaking to us about the need to maintain an intimate communion with Him in prayer, maintain fervent love towards our brothers, forgiving their offenses and serving him with a hospitable heart. Conduct yourself this way because Jesus is coming soon.