

Scripture: The Law of God (Ex. 20) – Luke 1:1-25
Singing: 261:1-3 – 327:3, 4 – 89:1-5 – 265:1, 3 – 200:1, 3

JESUS IS COMING: ARE YOU READY?

- I. THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD ARE NOT READY
II. MANY OF THE CHILDREN OF THE COVENANT ARE NOT READY
III. MANY OF GOD’S CHILDREN ARE NOT READY

I. The children of the world are not ready

- A. Who are the *children of the world*?
- B. They will be like people facing Noah’s flood or Sodom’s destruction
- C. What should we be doing for them?

II. Also many of children of the church are not ready

- A. Jesus does not come only to judge the world: *we all will be judged by Him*
1. Gabriel said many ‘children of Israel’ were not ready: vs. 16
 2. John and Jesus taught that also: Luke 3:9; Matt. 8:12; Matt. 25:10-11
 - a. you are ‘children of the Kingdom – Covenant Church’ (Ps. 95:7; 100)
 - b. yet that does not *make you ready* to meet Jesus
 - c. Jesus is not going to wait *till you are ready*: Luke 12:40
Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.
- B. When will be ready?
1. When you *obey the Word of God*
 - a. John preached you are not ready when you live in sin (Luke 3:7-14)
 - b. If you live out your sins, you are not ready for Jesus’ Return!
- C. What Jesus teaches about being ready: Mark 1:15
1. You need to repent from all your sins (Luke 3:8-9)
 - a. Repentance is more than *regret* what you did because it harms you
 - Repentance is *hating the sin* you did because it dishonors God
 - b. Repentance is more than *feeling sad* because you messed up
 - Repentance is *sorrow over sin* because it grieves God
 - c. Repentance is the fruit of *a new way of thinking* – wanting – loving
 - about God
 - about yourself
 - about sin
 - about living
 - about being saved
 - d. Question time: *Do you repent – or – are your repenting?*
 2. You need to believe (trust) in the Lord Jesus Christ
 - a. John prepared the people by pointing them to Jesus: *Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world*
 - why is Jesus the only One that can save you?
 - b. You only are ready to meet Jesus if *your sins are erased!*
 - c. How can your sins be erased, even today?
 - Jesus invites and pleads we come to Him (Is. 45:22)

- Jesus assures us that He will not cast us off (John 6:37)
 - Jesus teaches that the moment we believe, He erases all our sins never to recall them: Is. 55:6-9; 1 John 1:9
- d. You are ready when you *look for Him for salvation from all your sins*
- *And unto them that look for him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation (Hebrews 9:28)*

III. Even many prepared people are not ready

A. John also had to 'make ready the prepared people' (13-17)

1. Prepared people are *born again believers*

B. Yet not all of the Lord's children are *ready for Jesus' return*

2 Peter 3:14: *Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things (i.e. new heavens and new earth, wherein dwells righteousness) be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless*

CLOSE: ARE YOU READY?