

SUNDAY MESSAGE NOTES AND INTERACTIVE PDF

Preparing For His Coming

Jesus calls believers to keep their hearts ready for His return through fellowship with God, life in the Holy Spirit, holiness, persistent faith, and faithful service.

SERMON TITLE	MINISTER
Preparing For His Coming	Pastor Jason Gillick
DATE	PRIMARY SCRIPTURE
Sunday, April 26, 2026	Matthew 25:1-13

TOPICS [Second Coming of Jesus](#) | [Faith](#) | [Holy Spirit](#) | [Perseverance](#) | [Evangelism](#)

NOTES

Truth to carry into the week.

01 Preparing for Jesus' return begins with a heart that remains ready.

- The wise and foolish virgins both waited, but only the wise carried the oil they needed when the bridegroom came. ([Matthew 25:1-13](#))
- Readiness is more than religious attendance; it grows through personal fellowship with the Lord and continued surrender to Him.
- The apparent delay is not permission to become careless, distracted, or spiritually dull.

"It's the preparation of the heart."

STUDY [Matthew 25:1-13](#)

02 A ready heart stays filled with the Holy Spirit and focused on eternal things.

- Believers keep oil in their lamps by remaining in fellowship with God and yielding to the Holy Spirit.
- The nearness of Jesus' return sharpens spiritual attention as believers continue gathering, encouraging one another, and growing together. ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#))

"Stay filled with the spirit of God."

STUDY [Hebrews 10:24-25](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:4-6](#)

03 Faithful waiting means continuing the work Jesus has given His Church Body.

- Jesus calls believers to make disciples and carry the gospel into their own sphere of influence. ([Matthew 28:18-20](#))
- Every believer has been entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation and represents Christ to others. ([2 Corinthians 5:18-20](#))
- Delegated authority is used to demonstrate the goodness of Jesus, serve people, and point them toward His kingdom.

“We’ve been given the ministry of reconciliation.”

STUDY [Matthew 28:18-20](#); [2 Corinthians 5:18-20](#)

04 The return of Jesus calls believers to holiness, alertness, and perseverance.

- Light and darkness are becoming increasingly distinct, so believers must refuse compromise and remain faithful.
- Jesus warned that His return would seem delayed, yet His people are called to watch and stay ready. ([Matthew 25:5-13](#))
- Holiness is a life turned from darkness toward Jesus, lived as a child of God under His lordship.

“Stay focused upon what Jesus commanded.”

STUDY [Matthew 25:5-13](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:4-6](#)

05 Persistent faith refuses to lose heart while waiting for God’s promises.

- Jesus used the persistent widow to teach that people ought always to pray and not lose heart. ([Luke 18:1-8](#))
- The question is not whether Jesus will return, but whether He will find faith in the earth when He comes.
- Delay, difficulty, and opposition do not change God’s faithfulness or cancel His promises.

“Do not lose heart. Stay in faith.”

STUDY [Luke 18:1-8](#); [Galatians 6:9](#)

06 The testimony of faithful believers strengthens us to run with endurance.

- Hebrews 11 remembers men and women who trusted God, endured hardship, and looked toward a better promise.
- Because believers are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, every weight and entangling sin must be laid aside. ([Hebrews 12:1](#))
- Endurance grows as the believer looks to Jesus, the author and finisher of faith. ([Hebrews 12:2-3](#))

“Looking unto Jesus.”

STUDY [Hebrews 11:1-40](#); [Hebrews 12:1-3](#)

07 Occupying until Jesus comes keeps attention on His purpose instead of fear or self.

- Believers continue praying, serving, sharing the gospel, and standing on God’s Word while they wait.
- The work continues with expectancy: redemption is drawing near, and Jesus will surely return. ([Luke 21:28](#))
- A life centered on Jesus can remain steady through trials because its hope reaches beyond this present world.

“Occupy till he comes.”

STUDY [Luke 19:13](#); [Luke 21:28](#)

SCRIPTURE INDEX - NKJV

Read the Word in context.

[Matthew 25:1-13](#)

[1 Thessalonians 5:4-6](#)

[Hebrews 10:24-25](#)

[Matthew 28:18-20](#)

[2 Corinthians 5:18-20](#)

[Luke 18:1-8](#)

[Galatians 6:9](#)

[Hebrews 11:1-40](#)

[Hebrews 12:1-3](#)

[Luke 19:13](#)

[Luke 21:28](#)

How will you prepare for His coming?

What has been competing with your fellowship with God and the readiness of your heart?

How will you stay filled with the Holy Spirit and focused on eternal things this week?

Where are you tempted to lose heart, and what promise will help you remain in faith?

Who is in your sphere of influence that you can serve or point toward Jesus?
