

Watch and Warn

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[0 : 00] And again, thank you for coming tonight. I know there's some new faces and we're glad you're here with us. God bless you. Jeremiah chapter 6 if you've got your Bibles just to introduce things.

! The end of the world as we know it. Are you ready? See those old preachers on the streets with the signs, the end is nigh. The end is nigh. Flee from the wrath to come. There's a real message there. It sounds a bit controversial, a bit radical. Certainly not conservative. A radical message.

That's the message we have, isn't it?

It's the message of the word, isn't it? Something earth-shaking is about to happen and the signs are that it is ever closer. That earth-shaking event.

The wrath of God is about to be poured out on an unbelieving world. The Lord Jesus Christ is coming soon. He's sooner now than he was yesterday. Amen? We don't know how long, but it's soon in the scheme of eternity.

And this is the great hope of every believer, isn't it? It's our great hope. The big question is, are you ready? How do I prepare for the end of the world?

[1 : 45] It's a really big and important question. I think first up, we need to take warning, to take it seriously. This is really nothing to be trifled with. As much as some would mock such preachers or banner bearers of the end is nigh or the sandwich board bearers, the end is nigh.

People often kind of poke fun at such a thing. But it is the truth. It is the reality. The Lord is at hand. Little children, this is the last hour. These are the words of scripture.

In Jeremiah 6 verse 16, it says, Jeremiah cries out, Thus saith the Lord, Jeremiah 6 verse 16, Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, wherein is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.

But, they said, we will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But, they said, we will not hearken.

Friends, the cry goes out. It's the cry of the word of God. It's the cry of the voice of God. It's the cry of the word of God.

[3 : 30] Prepare to meet thy God. Flee from the wrath to come. Yet many disregard this vital truth. They say, we will not hearken.

The Lord Jesus has promised his coming. He's promised that he will return to this planet. And he's not coming as a babe in a manger. He's coming as the king of glory. He's coming with the host of heaven. He's coming for his own. And he's promised that he will come.

And in the context of our Lord's returning, there's a call to watchfulness. We see that in Mark 13, 5. Mark 13, 5. And Jesus answering them began to say, take heed, lest any man deceive you.

The context is of the latter days. Take heed, lest any man deceive you. I put to you today that there's much need for wariness. We should be wary. We should be careful.

We should be watchful. We should be aware. In the context of the last days, lest any man should deceive. Now, how many people are going out there spreading all kinds of stories, false gospels, really, of untruths?

[4 : 54] You know, just on Saturday, yesterday, we were doing some witnessing and we knocked on the door and a man answered.

And he said, yes, I believe Jesus is coming. He said he knew that Jesus is coming. He's a Muslim. Now, his Jesus is different from the Bible Jesus.

But people, there's people out there that know Jesus is coming, but they're not ready. They're not ready because they've been deceived. They've been taken in a religion, a philosophy, a way of thinking, which is not expecting the biblical Jesus to come.

God help them. I kind of think maybe some of these, maybe like Cornelius's, they're just almost, they've got a, there's a sense of God fearing in them, but they don't know the God of the Bible.

They don't know the Lord Jesus as their saviour. Take heed lest any man deceive you. It's a great need to be aware of these things. Another door we knocked, they were saying, oh, my aunties are Jehovah's Witnesses.

[5 : 59] They thought we were Jehovah's Witnesses. And because they see these people knocking on their doors so often, they think, oh, that's who we are. But of course, we're not Jehovah's Witnesses.

Well, we are the real Jehovah's Witnesses, but we're not the Jehovah's Witnesses, are we? We are the witnesses of the Bible, Jehovah, yes. We have much need of wariness lest any man deceive us. There's so much garbage out there, all this static, this noise that's going on. There's a call resounding out to all who will have ears to hear, to watch and be sober.

Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming. How are we to get ready? How can we get ready? Really, this morning I had a four-point sermon. A four-point sermon.

Who remembers the points? There was four cities. Flee from? Egypt. Egypt first. Sodom. Babylon. And Babylon. And fly to?

[7 : 02] Canaan. Heaven. So it's a four-point sermon. So to make up for that, I've only got a two-point sermon tonight. A two-point sermon. Everybody said? Amen. A two-point sermon to make it really simple for you tonight.

The first point is watch. Jesus is coming. How do we get ready? Watch. Watch. Now, I know there's someone here tonight that's a bit tired.

They had a long day. And I was kind of kidding. You could have put some toothpicks in to keep your eyes open. There's a sense of keeping your eyes open when you're feeling a bit tired, isn't there? To watch. You know? Keep your eyes peeled.

Keep your eyes wide open. Keep on the alert. Keep looking. Keep alert. Watch. Watch. And there's many scriptures that talk about watching. For example, 1 Peter 4, verse 7 through 8.

Peter writes this. In 1 Peter 4, verse 7, he says, watch unto prayer. 1 Peter 4, 7 through 8, it says, Peter says, Friends, the end of all things is at hand.

[8 : 21] So what should we do? Watch unto prayer. Be sober, therefore, and watch unto prayer. Friends, it's telling us here we should be diligently, watchfully, wakefully, faithfully preparing for the coming of our saviour to this planet, for this world-changing event.

Get ready. Spiritually. My message today is really we should join the preppers. There's some preppers over there in that crazy nation called the US of A, isn't there?

That preppers, you know? Now, I'm not saying get yourself a bomb shelter in the backyard necessarily, but I'm saying we should join the preppers in the sense that we should be prepared for the coming of Christ.

Shouldn't we? We should be prepared. And now, get ready spiritually for the coming of our saviour. And point number one is watch. Make preparation.

Luke 12, 35, our Lord says, Let your loins be girded about and your lights burning. It's got this sense, again, of the context here is of people watching for the master to come.

[9 : 32] And they've got their clothes all tidy and ready. They're ready for action. And they've got their lamps burning. They're alert.

They're in a state of readiness, a state of preparedness. The sense here is of Luke 12, 35, Let your loins be girded about and your lights burning, of being mindful, of being in a state of preparedness, of being on the alert, at your post, keeping your lamps ready.

The ones watching are the ones rewarded. The ones who are not watching, they miss out. There's something they miss.

We don't want to miss this. We want to be ready for Christ's coming. Peter goes on to say, 1 Peter 1, 13, again, Watch, be sober.

He repeats these things. In 1 Peter 1, 13 through 16, he uses the same picture of girding up. He says, He's talking about the end.

[10 : 47] He's talking about the revelation, the unfolding, the unveiling, the revealing of Christ. And he says, How do we get holy?

really our only hope is his holiness not not the man in rome called his holiness but his holiness amen christ's holiness in us christ in you that's our only hope gird up the loins of your mind in other words get your mind switched on to this get wise get wisdom here and get holy he's saying here gird up the loins of your mind be sober he says and hope to the end for the grace that is to be

brought unto you be sober be alert be wakeful be holy get your heart right and keep your mind so that it's fixed on these things so there's a watching there's a being sober what seems to be so prevalent in these days the opposite of sober glug glug glug glug isn't it this is a world that's just besotted and and uh in i don't know what some words to use paralytic isn't it it's like the almost the the aussie um yeah if you had a good weekend it's how glug glug glug drunk you've become or you know if it's a good party it's one where you've got drunk as if that is the be all and end all and really it's mindlessness it's foolishness it's sickness it's sin uh the bible says it's time to watch and be sober what is gonna make you um aren't not watchful is to be the opposite of sober isn't it and look we know some people struggle with these things whether it's drink or drugs or other substances that can get a grip on people it gets a hold of them friends the time is short the end is nigh what should we do to get ready watch and be sober don't touch it we have much need of soberness peter says it again in 1 peter 5 verse 8 he says be sober be vigilant in other words watch look out have your eyes peeled be on the alert be vigilant why because your adversary the devil as a roaring lion walketh about seeking him he may devour whom resist steadfast in the faith knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world friends time is too short to play games with god to play church we're called to watch and be sober friends there's no time for such waste and vanity and foolishness we are called to establish our hearts to be firm to be resolute james 5 7 through 8 it says be patient therefore brethren unto the coming of the lord there's a sense of being patient being persevering pressing pressing pressing on persevering the sense of patience of of steadiness he says behold the husbandman the the gardener waits for the precious fruit of the earth and he hath long patience for it until he received the early and latter rain the sense where the husbandman our lord is acting as a gardener would wait for the earth to bring forth it's almost like he knows his time he knows when it's harvest time and he's waiting just waiting for that right time it's just it could be days could be just around the corner in the scheme of eternity and verse 8 of james 5 it says be ye also patient establish your hearts why for the coming of the lord draweth nigh the coming of christ is coming the coming of christ is drawing near so we should be patient and we should press in perseverance and we should establish our hearts there's much need for watchfulness the world doesn't isn't watching it's almost like they switched off to this isn't it it's all it's carefree attitude especially the look let's face it the aussie culture eat drink and be merry now just uh everybody it seems the culture of australia is to just zone out when it comes to spiritual things and to to switch off but we must be watchful we must prepare spiritually to be faithful to to live right as as someone has put it and i think very truly live each day as if it were your last one day it will be isn't that right let's live such we've got no regret for how we've lived our day live one day at a time with jesus one day at a time and keep short accounts with god look as a christian you'll still slip up and fail talk to him and get it right it's it's what we do and he is loving and gracious live each day as if it were your last because one day it will be another scripture along this theme is 1 thessalonians 5 verses 1 through 11 and you might want to turn there i'll just spend a bit of time there i'm conscious i'm using numbers of references but 1 peter 5 sorry 1 thessalonians 5 we'll just spend a few moments there it says but of the times and seasons brethren you have no need that i write unto you for yourselves know perfectly that the day of the lord so cometh as a thief in the night for when they shall say peace and safety then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travail upon a woman with child and they shall not escape you know we've had some babies born uh of late and uh when it happens it happens you just make you just make preparations you call the ambulance or or you have to be the midwife if suddenly it comes on them suddenly it's going it's saying when people are saying peace and safety it's saying sudden destruction is going to come upon them as travail upon a woman with child we need to be ready there's a sense of preparedness isn't there that we need to be ready because it could happen any moment when a woman comes to to close to term we know you've got to be ready at a moment's notice to to get things in order but ye brethren are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief yeah all children of light and the children of the day we are not of the night nor of the darkness therefore let us not sleep as do others but let us watch and be sober amen my friend's still staying awake here he's uh you know we didn't give him any uh matchsticks here to keep his eyes open but we've got to watch and be sober amen he's sorry to pick on your brother but there's that sense where again it's that same therefore let us not do let us not sleep as others but let us watch and be sober this world is going to sleep it's going to hell in a handbasket this world uh by and large cares nothing for the coming of christ they mock it as if it was some fairy story as if it was some make-believe but friends this is reality this is bible jesus is coming we should watch and be sober not sleep as do others verse 7 for they that sleep sleep in

the night they that be drunken are drunken in the night there's that picture again of of the opposite of soberness but let us who are of the day be sober putting on the breastplate of righteousness sorry the blessed breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation for god hath not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by our lord jesus christ who died for us that whether we wake or sleep we should live together with him wherefore comfort yourselves together and edify one another even as also you do the point i'm making here again the context is uh people are saying peace and safety that sudden destruction is going to come upon them as childbirth just currently happens bang uh but brethren you're not of the darkness you're not uh you're not to be sleeping as do others but to be sober to be awake to be watching and we're not to be drunken uh as those who are drunken in the night but we are to be sober be sober i trust you get the message i'm trying to get across here tonight uh you know no one's fallen asleep yet i don't think watch and be sober it's a repeated thing so number one finish the first point you'll be glad to know the first point watch really watch and be sober watch and pray as well as watching we need to do some warning the second point here is warn watch and warn people are not going to hear you people are going to refuse your witness should that stop you it shouldn't we must tell them we have to tell them like someone remarked we can't win them all but we can warn them all isn't that true we can't win them all but we can warn them all warn them you may say but no one's listening i'm trying to tell people about jesus on i've been witnessing to this man uh for years i've been praying for him to get saved warn them still be the one who gives warning christ is coming we need to tell the world don't we warn them 2 peter 3 verses 3 through 4 it says knowing this first that there shall come in the last day scoffers walking after their own lusts and saying where is the promise of his coming for since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation the lord jesus says yes there will be mockers it's another sign it's another sign that christ is coming many will mock the idea of jesus's coming they will want to stay in their ignorance and sin and their little lullaby as satan rocks them in the cradle let us not sleep as do others let us watch and be sober we must sound warning because those who are not saved are in great peril the world needs warning and who is going to warn them he's not going to send angels he's going to send human beings just like you and me and what should our message be get ready jesus is coming it's needful for us all to ask this question how can i be ready discern the signs of the times what's going on it's a world in crisis when crisis threatens we need to be prepared we need to be preppers as it were to have a survival kit a survival kit now surely these present times we live in sound much like those of those of 2 timothy 3 you know the words likely have heard it before this know also that in the last days perilous times shall come but men shall be lovers of their own selves covetous boasters proud blasphemers disobedient to parents unthankful unholy without natural affection truth breakers false accusers incontinent fierce despisers of those that are good traitors heady high-minded lovers of pleasure more than lovers of god having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof from such turn away for of this sort are they which creep into houses and lead captives silly women laden with lust sorry laden with sins led his way with diverse lusts ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth it goes on as janice and jambres withstood moises so do these also resist the truth men of corrupt minds reprobate concerning the faith but they shall proceed no further for their folly shall be manifest unto all men he goes on persecutions came to me he says yea all that will live godly in christ jesus shall suffer persecution that's the norm you might say preacher it's hard it's hard for me to witness it's hard for me to tell someone about jesus to tell them about the gospel they might be nasty to me expect it expect it don't let it put you off yea and all that will live godly in christ jesus will suffer persecution that's normal don't be deterred sorry i gotta must have been singing too loud tonight and paul goes on but continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and it's been assured of knowing of whom thou hast learned them and that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in christ jesus all scripture is given by inspiration of god and is profitable for doctrine for reproof for correction for instruction in righteousness that the man of god may be truly furnished perfect truly furnished unto all good works he says evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse what should we do when evil men and seducers are waxing worse and worse deceiving and being deceived continue thou in the things which thou hast learned this is the scripture this is the foundation this is how we test deception from truth nowadays it seems like many are not spiritually prepared it's like as someone has put it theology has been replaced with me-ology it's all about me me me me you see the songs people sing in some settings where it's all about me me me i i i um instead of being me centered we

should be christ-centered he should be the center and it's a sign itself of a of a failure of people to seek first the kingdom of god instead they're looking after who's gonna i've just got an itchy ear could someone come and it's my scratch my ear for me you know i just want to they go looking for i just got some itchy itchiness here there's this sense of this itching ears of ear tickling are they looking for people who'll tell them what they want to hear who'll make them feel nice and give them something that will make them warm and comfortable and to have give them words like your best life now truly it's time for soberness isn't it it's not to say we can benefit from some uplifting and encouraging and such and and some positivity it doesn't hurt but when that is the focal point it's wrong isn't it the focal point is not me me me it's him him him and there's die need of warning when we get off track turbulent times paul says last days

[27 : 36] they're going to have these signs 2 timothy 3 it's happening now isn't it this recklessness this loving of pleasure more than loving god this time where people will call good evil and evil good and this is this total confusion and this where everything is pandering to the defiled human heart and not actually challenging the warning isn't happening you see some preachers and there's no warning there paul says warning every man that i need to be warned every man needs warning get sorted with god yet it seems there's a a departure there's a lack it tells in 174 verse 1 now the spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils it tells of men who professing themselves to be wise have become fools you tune into the science programs and it's it's it's fuller foolishness off times a denying of god anything but god i was talking with someone lately and it's almost like in uh for example richard dawkins minds and such elk of men as him they would they would rather believe aliens created the world and the universe of them that god created because they don't want god that's the bottom line it's not that they trying to have some scientific discovery though they want to read it such that god isn't in the picture because they hate god we're living in the end time it's like a powder keg and the fuse is lit friends we don't know how much time we've got may we be a people awake understanding the times the truth must be our foundation continue thou in this when when there's deceivers deceiving and being deceived what should we do continue thou in the word biblical doctrine that must be our foundation our firm foundation our lord in the last book of the bible issued harsh words to seven different churches there there were strong words there to those seven churches in the first chapters of revelation friends judgment must begin at the house of god the house of god god help us the house of god what some would call the house of god is the house of devils it's what's seeing what's going on you know we've been in that in that circumstance we had some time when we were in that circle of the charismatic scene a conservative style charismatic church but still it was false doctrine looking back now and you see in some of these circles where there's some uh supposed signs and wonders some referred to it as pandemonium it was pandemonium as in it was just total disorder and chaos and all of these weird manifestations going on and what does pandemonium mean lots of devils lots of demons pan many demonium demons it's demonic what's going on this is not just false doctrine it's demonic doctrine and friends how we must be wait watchful and wakeful and alert and discerning continue thou in this don't be departing from the word and look that's not to say bible believing baptists are immune from

some false doctrines two seven churches in revelation they all got a bit of a shake-up because god was very straight and strong with them we need the strong word to the church judgment must begin at the house of god friends we all need to be watchful and wakeful and i don't want to ever get to a place where i think i've arrived and i've got it all down pat i want to keep continuing there in the things that i've learned and the end times are upon us friends jesus is coming this is real this is real are we ready people of god are we ready do we take this seriously enough that we realize time is very short it says in 2 peter 3 10 people of god we must heed the warnings of scriptures but the day of the lord will come as a thief in the night in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burnt up one sunday morning we had a good time at church and we went home and we walked through the front door and we realized someone had been in our home a thief a thief had been in our home and had taken property from our home expensive possessions was were no longer there the fly screen was torn away from the window someone had been a thief had come we weren't we were caught by surprise friends jesus is coming as a thief in the night he's coming as a thief in the night and there's many people it's just going to be a surprise despite the warnings of bible believing preachers despite the warnings of the word despite the signs manifest through world

events of this day many will be surprised they'll be caught on the hop jesus is coming like a thief in the night how our world needs warning doesn't it doesn't it need warning is there any hope for australia yes there is a blessed hope our lord is a glorious glad hope yet for that end of days it says the wicked shall be turned into hell friends get right with god don't toy with eternity don't toy with making a decision just bow your heart and will and trust him simply that receive his gift don't put it off another moment another minute get right with god the word tells us the wicked shall be turned into hell the world's future is firmly in god's hands the hour of his judgment is come are you ready will you watch will you warn you know we don't we don't want to just be watchful we want to be warning because we who have the message we have trusted him we are watching we don't want to be going to heaven on our own we want to bring as many with us don't we we need watchmen who are warned to watch and to pray we've got a duty to warn paul says i'm not ashamed of the gospel we're not out to win a popularity contest you know i remember back as a young man back in england uh age 15 i think it was and we went to a fairground and i still remember these these men holding up these banners they were words of scripture words of scripture i thought wow that's pretty radical isn't it i don't think they were even saying anything do you remember that that but my mom but yeah they're holding the words of scripture on these big banners and even like uh was it friday night said friday night um we went down the mall and there was people holding up banners holding up the words of scripture for all the world to see i thought wow they've got some spunk haven't they they've got a bit of gumption a bit of guts a bit of wow good on it and we need that don't we the words should be out there we should be uh marketing it we should be publicizing it we should be broadcasting this uh such that people will say what a wacko what a nutcase what a crazy and we can say i'm not ashamed of the gospel of christ it's the power of god unto salvation we should be counter-cultural we should be willing to step out of our comfort zone out of our shell out of our christian christianity uh as in the holy club kind of mindset that sometimes we adopt step out of that fortress christianity and say no we are an invading force we are a counter-cultural movement that will take this wonderful message and what are we to do warn warn now when i say warn our warning is a loving warning we're not there to bash people on the head oh you're a lesbian so you're going to hell jesus didn't come us to to to proclaim uh you've all got to be heterosexual to be saved it's not about that there's many heterosexuals going to hell amen our message is the savior of every man and every woman who'll put their trust in him you know our message is a loving warning because every man and every woman needs to trust in christ to take this wonderful message of hope thankfully there is good news behind the bad news and friends there's equally as many lost heterosexuals as as homosexuals of course we know homosexuality is clearly wrong but we're not targeting any particular sin because every man outside of christ is just as hell bound as another and our message is not to promote morality it's to promote the savior it's to promote christ that our only hope our only hope in a world that's abandoning truth a world that's right for judgment we've got a savior to declare to the nations and it's interesting even reading the news of late i read some commentary that even the world's scientists and politicians and even celebrities have expressed a belief that this world is growing closer to reaching its end it's almost like the media out there you know this is not just the hollywood tendency to have movies about the end of the world and destruction and such but even scientists and politicians and celebrities uh putting this belief out there we're getting closer to the world reaching its end i saw this video clip lately of this school child this this school girl she must have been maybe eight or nine years old and she was like pouring buckets of tears worried about climate change it's the end of the world and uh you know unless the politicians do something it's the end of the world and there's this conditioning that's going on yes the end of the world is coming uh and numbers of people are saying in effect that if drastic steps are not taken by the end of the year 2020 as in the end of next year to curb climate change it will be too late and the planet will be beyond the point of no return so the scaremongering is not some man wearing a sandwich board saying the end is nigh this is modern day scientists now for me the issue is not any supposed man-made climate change but yes the world is in danger the world is in danger why because it's in rebellion against the almighty god and the only hope is to get right with him the only hope is to trust him the signs that alarm me are these a world in defiance against god that's the problem an increasing lukewarmness and apostasy within the church even in this church god help us i heard of so-called christian ministers some who do not even believe in god apparently there's a church in toronto canada where a woman who is a professed atheist leads her congregation she's the pastor this atheist pastor in this toronto church in

canada her name is greta vosper and she's worked as a minister at west hill united church since 1997 she's long told her audience that she does not believe in god nor the authority of the bible and what do the leaders of that denomination do they support her an atheist pastor an atheist woman pastor does not believe in god nor the authority of the bible this is what's happening people wake up and smell the coffee this is happening other signs are rising interest in the occult such that there's even christians joining in this isn't there mindless ignorant professing christians are doing tarot cards and crystal cards and wenty boards you name it the storm clouds are gathering people jesus is coming isn't he get ready and friends i urge you tonight they're shifting values and they're increasingly perverse i know you might think this is maybe a little bit over the top tonight that may be getting it carried away but we should get carried away shouldn't we because jesus is coming this is serious this is important this matters in a world that's value its values are going down the tubes we need to wake up and realize what's going on think of the spirit of confusion that possesses this world today the gender madness the gender madness now julie and i were just kind of going down the shop lately to to buy some uh articles of clothing for a newborn baby and it's like you could there's hardly any blue and pink it's all like yellow you notice that lately i mean i mean maybe it's because you don't know the gender of the baby to be born yet or is it getting so politically correct now that you can't buy blue and pink baby clothes anymore you've got to buy yellow you've got to buy this kind of this murky middle uh who knows what it is a boy or a girl or who knows it's like this is gender madness going on isn't it and then we see the so-called pride in what is evil and gross psalm 10 verse 4 it says the wicked through the pride of his countenance will not seek after god god is not in all his thoughts the world uses this word pride and they display the rainbow and they think that this is being proud of being uh corrupt really the pride of his countenance the wicked through the pride of his countenance will not seek after god it's like these days friends many have seen so have lost their ability to discern right from wrong and as parents as as uh as grandparents we see god help our children in such a world as this that that they can see the right from the wrong while there's still chance that they will have their eyes open that they won't follow after this um this evil agenda that is being foisted upon our world today and for all of this for all of these signs it is needful to get ready friends i'm drawing to a close here and the words of scripture must be our words the words that move us my two-point sermon to recap watch put those toothpicks in keep those eyes open keep those eyes open whatever you do keep those eyes open don't fall asleep don't be drunken don't fall asleep but watch and be sober we should have our eyes peeled about what is going on and number two warn there's people all around us that do not know the savior they are hell bound they are lost for eternity warn them lovingly warn them warn them out of your heart of love the last words of the word of god in revelation 22 it says he that testifies these things saith surely i come quickly amen even so come lord jesus the grace of our lord jesus christ be with you all amen let's pray lord we thank you thank you your word is our foundation our foundation stone lord we pray each one here that knows you not might not delay another moment to get it right not by works of our own thinking or doing not by any words of our own making or manufacturing of our own effort not by any pushing of our own will or manufacturing of our own emotion but simply to believe simply to believe to believe that you died on the cross for our sin that you died that you were nailed there that when your hands were laid down on that piece of wood that as your hands were pierced as your beard was plucked as your head was torn and shredded and bruised and crowned with thorns lord that it was for us it was for our sin that you were crucified that you lovingly took that shame that you lovingly bore our guilt and sin that we can know you personally know you as our savior and lord our master and you can save us in an eye blink of faith as we simply trust your work for us on our part pray that that might happen right now in human hearts that by faith will simply trust and say jesus thank you for dying on the cross for me thank you jesus for saving my soul saving me right here and now right this very moment as i trust you save me right now and i receive that salvation lord that gift right now i receive it and i thank you for it i confess it and i proclaim it and i i grasp a hold of it knowing that it's given to me lord and for each believer here tonight lord we know the days are short and shortening lord we know uh our even our state of south australia even this city of churches lord god we know there's many lost souls help us to be warning them to warn them while we can to warn them regardless of how we are treated to warn them regardless of how they might punish us and persecute us to warn them lovingly warn them to warn them because we're not ashamed of the gospel of christ it is the power of god unto salvation lord and even so

[47 : 54] come lord jesus we look forward to your coming as the world looks forward to uh doom and disaster we look forward to the savior we look forward not to the wrath but to your saving lord we look forward to the rapture lord we look forward to your taking your people unto yourself and we thank you for these thanks in jesus name amen