Ready for His Return

Salvation and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ

MAIN TEXT
Hebrews 9:28; Matthew 24:44

Introduction

Jesus Christ came the first time as a Saviour to die for our sins. He is coming the second time as King and Judge to gather His people to Himself. Salvation is not only about being forgiven today; it is about being found ready on the day He appears. The question this message asks every heart is simple: **if Jesus came today, would you be ready?**

> *"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."*
> HEBREWS 9:28 (KJV)

1. Salvation is the starting point

No one prepares for the Lord's return by good works, church attendance or family background. Readiness begins with a new birth. We are saved by grace through faith when we turn from sin and receive Jesus as Lord (Ephesians 2:8–9; John 3:3).

> *"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."*
> ROMANS 10:9 (KJV)

2. His return is certain

The angels promised that "this same Jesus" will come back in the same way He went (Acts 1:11). Jesus Himself said He is preparing a place and will return to receive us (John 14:2–3). The dead in Christ will rise first, and believers who are alive will be caught up to meet Him (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17). The delay is not forgetfulness; it is mercy, because God is "not willing that any should perish" (2 Peter 3:9).

3. How to live ready

- **Live holy.** "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). Holiness is our lifestyle, not a Sunday outfit.
- **Keep watch.** The five wise virgins carried oil for the delay; the foolish ones ran out (Matthew 25:1–13). Keep your lamp burning through prayer and the Word.
- **Stay faithful.** Serve God with what He has given you, as a servant who expects the Master at any moment (Matthew 24:45–46).

- **Win souls.** We are called to take as many people with us as possible. Tell someone about Jesus this week.

4. The door will be shut

In the parable, "they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut" (Matthew 25:10). There will be a final moment. Today is still a day of grace, so do not delay your decision or your repentance (2 Corinthians 6:2).

> *"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."*
> MATTHEW 24:44 (KJV)

Conclusion

The blessed hope of every believer is the glorious appearing of our Saviour (Titus 2:13). Let that hope purify your life (1 John 3:3). Settle your salvation, live holy, keep your lamp burning, and bring others with you. Jesus is coming soon.

FOR REFLECTION

1. Have I truly received Jesus as Lord and Saviour?
2. Is there any sin I need to confess and forsake today?
3. Who will I invite to know Christ this week?

PRAYER POINTS

1. Lord, wash me and make me ready for Your coming.
2. Give me grace to live a holy life every day.
3. Use me to bring many souls into Your kingdom.

MEMORY VERSE

"Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."
REVELATION 22:20 (KJV)