

The Role of the Church in the Community – Part 13

Serving while we wait

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Role of the Church in the Community. Our topic today: Serving while we wait.

Scripture Theme Song: It is good to give thanks (Ps. 92:1-4)

- 1) Jesus will soon return again in glory
 - a) The promise of Jesus – John 14:1-3; Matt. 24:27,31
 - b) The reassurance of the angels – Acts 1:9-11
 - c) The testimony of Paul – Titus 2:11-14
 - d) What other promises in the Bible assure us that our Savior will return again in glory?
- 2) The challenges of waiting
 - a) 2 Peter 3:1-9
 - b) Why does Peter suggest the coming of Jesus is “delayed”, at least from our perspective?
 - c) What assurance does Peter give us even though the return of Jesus is not as soon as we might have expected? 2 Peter 3:10
 - d) What are some of the challenges associated with waiting for the return of Jesus that you see in the testimony of Peter?
 - e) How can we guard ourselves against the complacency and sleepiness (Matt. 25:5) that can so easily overtake those who are waiting for the return of Jesus?
- 3) How shall we wait for His return? – lessons from 3 parables of Jesus
 - a) Matthew 24:45-51.
 - i) What lessons do you learn from this parable about how we should wait for our Master’s return?
 - ii) Why does a complacent attitude regarding the return of our Master inevitably affect the way we live?
 - b) Matthew 25:1-13
 - i) What lessons do you learn from this parable about how we should wait for the Bridegroom?
 - ii) How can we have the assurance that we have made adequate preparation for the return of the Bridegroom?
 - c) Matthew 25:14-30
 - i) What lessons do you learn from this parable about how we should wait for our Master’s return?
 - ii) What other passages of Scripture encourage us to use our gifts and talents while we wait for the return of Jesus?
 - (1) Matthew 28:19-20
 - (2) Luke 10:2; John 4:35-36
 - (3) Other texts?
- 4) Making all things new
 - a) Revelation 21:1-5
 - b) Revelation 22:1-5
 - c) Who do you know that needs to be invited to be a part of that glorious new heavens and new earth?