

“Watch And Pray”

Lesson Text: **Matthew 26:36-46.** “Keep watching and praying...” (NASB)

I. The Meaning Of Watch.

- 1. Watch**— 2. Metaph. *to watch* i. e. *give strict attention to, be cautious, active*:—to take heed lest through remissness and indolence some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one, Mt. 24:42; 25:13; Mk. 13:35, (Thayer, J. H. **A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament**)
- 2.** Watching and Praying is not passive, unintentional, or automatic— but rather requires constant & intentional effort on our part as Christians!
- 3.** It is required Of ALL CHRISTIANS!

II. The Practical Side Of Watching And Praying.

A. Jesus needed His Disciples to be with Him and “*keep Watch with Me....*” (**Matthew 26:40**). Draw Strength, Comfort, & Support...

B. The church is to be a people who watch and pray— Together.

C. Watch out for:

1. Temptations— Matthew 26:41.

- What happens if we don’t see the danger?
- What can be the consequences of not being alert?
David vs. Joseph— **2 Samuel 11:1-5; Genesis 39:5-13.**
The watchman for a city— **Psalms 127:1.**
- Prayer is a major defense against temptation and is our avenue of asking for help from God. Strong connection (joined).
- **Luke 11:1-4.** “And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.”
- **1 Peter 5:8; James 1:12.**

2. False Doctrines— Acts 20:31.

- Why? **Acts 20:25-30!** Apostasy is real, clear, and present danger!
- **Ephesians 4:14; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 2:14-18.**
- The charge to elders & evangelists— **Titus 1:19-14; 2 Timothy 4:5.**
- And to all Christians— **Jude vs. 3-4.**
- What are the consequences if we don’t watch?

3. For The Lord’s Return— Matthew 24:42-44.

- Blessings for those who do watch- **Matthew 24:45-47.**
- Destruction for those caught off-guard- **Matthew 24:48-51.**
- Watch and Pray- **Revelation 16:15; 1 Peter 4:7.**

Conclusion— 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11.