

it important. He stressed the same thing even in some of its details connected with the way he presented it, even though they were somewhat different. I think the stress of the Bible is important. I don't think God wants us to take one verse and try to squeeze a great deal out of it that may not be in it. But He wants us to compare Scripture with Scripture.

So let's look at some of these passages in which our Lord referred to some of these matters that meant so much to the Apostle Paul. Let's look first at Mat. 24 starting with v. 35. Our Lord said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall never pass away. No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven nor the Son but only the Father." Then in v. 38, "For in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. And they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That's how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man." In v. 42, "Therefore keep watch because you do not know on what day your Lord will come." In v. 44, "So you also must be ready because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him."

In Mat. 25:13, "Therefore keep watch because you do not know the day nor the hour." Immediately after that there was that parable that I discussed with you 3 weeks ago, in which he told about a man going away on a journey and giving talents to various people. How he came back and he called upon them to show what they had done with those talents. He put great stress in these vv. we have looked at on the return of the Lord to this earth, and that we do not know when it is to happen so we are to watch.

Now to watch I don't think means to look for the signs of the times! Try to figure out how soon it is going to be!! Is it today? Is it tomorrow? Next week? What is happening in the international world? I don't think that is what he means at all. The words here translated watch mean to be wide awake, vigilant, on the job! In some of His parables He speaks about the people who were left in charge and when the Lord came back he was to see whether they were feeding His people, whether they were doing their work, whether they were on the job. The Lord isn't interested in whether yesterday He is coming tomorrow, or the next day. He is interested in our longing for His coming and He is interested in our being on the job when He comes, feeding His people with the Word of Life, and trying to reach others with the knowledge of how they can be saved through Christ.

Now in Mark 13 we find statements very similar to those in Matt. Whether they are referring to the same occasion or to a different occasion in which He dealt with these matters. Look at Mk. 13:32, "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven nor the Son but only the Father. Be on guard, be alert. You don't know when that time will come. It is like a man going away. He leaves his house in charge of His servants, each with his assigned