

R 1 (2)

which Christ's body was raised from the dead, but it is a period which runs over—it is a series of events which make up the resurrection of Christ.

Now the second coming might conceivably be something that all took place at one second or it might conceivably be stretched over hundreds of years. We cannot be dogmatic about it unless we find Scriptural evidence. But what is the attitude of the Christian toward the second coming of Christ? We notice that Luke 12: 35-41 in a passage in which He has not been speaking particularly about events connected with the return of Christ, He begins speaking of their attitude which they are to take. ^{Just} Before that He has been saying they are not to worry. God will take care of them. They are to trust the Lord. Now He says they are to be like men that wait for their lord. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when He comes will find watching. If He comes in the second or third watch and finds them so, blessed are those servants. If they had known when the good man of the house would come—if the good man of the house had known when the thieves would come he would have watched and not have suffered his house to be broken into. Be ye therefore ready also, for the Son of man cometh in an hour when you think not. The second coming is suddenly interjected into this passage with an interjection here urging believers, at least Peter and the apostles—Peter says, "Do you speak this parable to us or even to all?" urging believers to be ready for the Son of man comes at an hour when they think not, and telling them to watch, and we've noticed that "watch", the two words used, " " and " " do not mean "be looking for". They don't mean "be looking at something". They mean "Be vigilant," "be wide awake, be active, be on your job," and so we have a practical exhortation—now here you might say an extreme dispensational view would be, "This practical exhortation relates only to people in the last three or four years, or it may be even as much as seven years of the age after certain direct signs have come," but certainly the normal Christian attitude would be to say, "Unless this is specifically designated as referring only to a time after certain specific signs have been given, this must be a command that applies to all Christians.