

for you don't know when He is coming. You find this stressed a dozen times and one time it is given out of a clear blue ~~xx~~ sky, with no discussion of eschatology in the neighborhood at all. Luke turns to Christ and says, do you say this just for us or for everybody, and Christ goes on to give the illustration that it is meant for all people and at all times, we are to be constantly watching, for at any moment in the life, of any one of them, the time may come when Jesus will come back and bring an end to this age. It is stressed so many times, and yet how many of our churches have utterly neglected this? How many of our Christian lives have paid absolutely no attention to this command of God that this is to have a primary emphasis in our life in ~~xx~~ a practical way, not simply in theory, that we be constantly alive and awake and ready in case our Lord Jesus Christ should come then.

There is nothing more important if we are to serve God than to study His Word in the original and to know exactly what it means there. And there is no limit to the attention that we could give to this, in this regard. And it is not for this purpose that we study Church ~~History~~ History.

Now, the fourth reason why we do not study Ch. Hist. is, we have already really been talking about this because it is related to this one, it is not to learn to understand God's will for the future of the world. We don't learn what is going to happen in the future by Ch. Hist. There are two statements, here. History never repeats itself, and history constantly repeats itself. They are both true. And the fact is, you can't tell from history what is going to happen in the future, you cannot. When it happens, you can understand it better, perhaps, through history. Most anything that happens, you can't find ~~xx~~ parallels in the past, history repeats itself constantly. In that human nature is similar and ~~xx~~ circumstances are similar, and similar results occur until you find parallels that help to understand a situation. But history never repeats itself in the sense that the new situation is so similar ~~that~~ ~~xx~~ to the old ~~xx~~ that it really tells what is going to happen. You do not learn God's plan for the world or for the church, for the future of them by studying