

134
into your King ~~Y~~ James Version which is far nearer to the original than any recent version I've seen. ~~f~~ Go into your ~~kt~~ King ~~James~~ James Version, but on every ~~work~~ word ask yourself, "Does that mean the way we take it today, or did it mean something a little different then?" That's one way. The second way I think is an easier way in my opinion, is to learn Greek and Hebrew and then see what they meant in the ~~any~~ original. What the King ~~James~~ James Version translated into the language of their time we can find out what it means in our time. But this particular word "watch" in the ~~King James~~ Old English, and very definitely the two Greek words that are translated "watch" in these contexts don't mean "be looking out the window all the time to see if He's coming/," That's ~~th~~ what our present word "watch" is apt to mean. They mean "be wide awake," "be on the job," "be vigilant." That's what they mean. He/~~says~~ ^{says} in "in such an hour as ye think not ~~next~~ he comes." We are not told to be guessing, "Is it going to be today? Is it going to be tomorrow? Is it going to be the next day?" We are told to be so actively ~~xxx~~ in the Lord's service that there'll be no question when He comes but that He will find us industriously serving Him. And you see that idea is brought out in the context too, because He says we should be people who are actively serving Him. But the thing I wanted to bring out about this context is verse 40 where He says exactly what He said in Matt°, but with no eschatological context: "Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ~~h~~ ye think not." And Peter said, "Are you talking this to us here, we who are here in front of you? or is this intended for allot of other people in ~~add~~ additon to us? He didn't say, "Is this for people some thousands of years from now when the eschatological ~~is~~ complex comes, ^{or} ~~if~~ does it include us?" He assumed it ~~certainly~~ certainly included them. He wanted to know whether it included all the followers of Christ. And Christ went on to say that it very definitely did ~~include~~ include all that they should be ready at all times. So the disciples were watching, expecting, hoping that He ~~would~~ would come in their day. And so we have two stages then to the return of Christ. We have the stage that Matthew Henry called "The ~~Rapture~~ Rapture." Now, rapture there, we are apt to interpret in our modern English where it means great excitement ~~and~~ and joy.