

Daily Devotional

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"Gateway to God's Glory in the Midst of the Coronavirus Pandemic"

"BE READY IN ADVANCE"

"So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him." St. Matthew 24:44

Readiness for the unexpected is a spiritual concept often emphasized by Jesus in His teachings. This particular scripture, of course, was His warning to His disciples as He taught them about the signs of the end of the age. The ultimate penalty, of course, is the loss of eternal life if we aren't ready when Jesus returns. Therefore, daily, we must strive to be ready to approach the business of living by remaining in a state of spiritual readiness. One must always be ready for the unexpected because when the unexpected happens, there is no time to get ready with an appropriate response.

One of the main tricks of the devil is to catch us in a state of unreadiness. You know what I mean! We are very vulnerable to Satan's attacks when we have not prayed, read our Bible, or put on the whole armor of God before beginning our activities for the day. We can certainly tell the difference as we confront various challenges. For example, the "tyranny of the urgency" grabs hold, and we feel pressure, stressed and out of control. In reality, we really are out of control because the Holy Spirit is not controlling us at the time. Our nerves are on edge; therefore, when we meet ugly acting or ugly sounding people during the day, we also act ugly and sound ugly along with them. You get the picture! Our three enemies, (1) the devil, (2) our flesh, and (3) the world, take over and we are sifted like wheat.

Well, my sisters and brothers, the world says, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." But Jesus expresses the thought this way: *"Be ye also ready."* I think I'll strive to do what Jesus taught. What about you?

How will you respond to today's message?



Dear Lord, You have told me to remain in a state of **readiness**. **May I have a mind** and heart dedicated to You? Help me to do the things you have commanded so that I can always be ready, no matter what occurs. I thank you for giving me everything I need to be prepared in advance for the unexpected. I love you and praise your Holy Name. Amen!
