

# Daily Devotional by Dr. Gloria P. Holmes

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## "Occupy Until I Come...Jesus Is Coming Again"

*"And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come."*

St. Luke 19:13

My husband, Pastor RB Holmes, Jr., loves all kinds of sports! Through the years, I have become keenly aware of the importance of fundamentals through his commentary at various sporting events. For example, he might mention that certain athletes had not grasped the fundamentals of the different games being played. If his team was losing, he might call out loudly to a player: "Remember the fundamentals!" Although while growing up, I played nearly every sport, either in physical education, in our yard, or at the park in our neighborhood, I was never on a school team. However, my husband played on several teams. So, while I learned the rules of the different games, I simply played for fun, not really paying close attention to techniques on how to really win the game. On the other hand, RB Holmes, Jr. played to win. Nevertheless, I have come to appreciate the importance of learning and practicing the fundamentals. Thus, today, I want to share a few fundamental truths that are in the Bible concerning the Christian faith and the *Second Coming of Christ*.

**Fundamental Point #1:** God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and give us eternal life. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved."* (St. John 3:16-17) This is the good news of the gospel.

**Fundamental Point #2:** We must be born again by accepting Jesus as our personal Savior. We know that Nicodemus, a Pharisee, came to Jesus by night and acknowledged that Jesus was a teacher who had come from God. (St. John 3:1-2) *"Jesus answered and said unto him, verily, verily, I say unto thee, 'Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'"* (St. John 3:3) There is a saying I heard somewhere a long time ago that I like to repeat: *"Sinners are born once but die twice; Christians are born twice but die once."*

**Fundamental Point #3:** While we remain on earth, each of us must use our God given gifts of time, talents, and treasures for God's glory. Our verse today comes from a parable in St. Luke 19: 11-28 which Jesus taught concerning the Kingdom of God. *"And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, occupy till I come."* Luke 19:13 (KJV)

**Fundamental Point #4:** Jesus is coming again; He will come quickly, but no one knows when, except the Father. *"At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory ."* (St. Mark 13:26) *"Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you. For you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night."* (I Thessalonians 5:1-2) *"... Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of the day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only."* (St. Matthew 24: 34-36 KJV)

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## **“Occupy Until I Come...Jesus Is Coming Again” (Continued)**

**Fundamental Point #5:** Judgment Day is coming. *“So then, every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”* (Romans 14:12) *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”* (II Corinthians 5:10) *“...So, Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many, and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.”* (Hebrews 9:26-28) On Judgment Day, the saved will get rewards and the unsaved will experience the second death; they will be cast into the Lake of Fire. (Revelation 20) *“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega; the First and the Last; the Beginning and the End.”* (Revelation 22:12-13)

Finally, there is a beautiful church song from long ago that celebrates the *Second Coming of Christ*. The verse starts out slowly with the words: *“When Jesus Comes Again.”* Next, the chorus resounds asking this question: *“Will You Be Ready When Jesus Comes? Will You Be Ready When Jesus Comes? When He Comes...When He Comes Again; When He Comes...When He comes Again; Will You Be Ready When Jesus Comes?”*

### *Prayer*

Dear Heavenly Father:  
Thank You for sending Jesus to die for our sins. By the power of the Holy Spirit, please enable all saints to occupy until Jesus comes again. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***How will you respond to today's message?***

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