

# Community of Grace

## Daily Walk for the week of November 9, 2020

### Justice...Be Watchful Written by Kerri Lawton

#### Monday, November 9, 2020

Matthew 25:13 “Keep awake therefore, for you know neither of the day nor the hour.” In Matthew 24:44 we read: “Therefore you also must be ready, for the son of man is coming at an unexpected hour.” This certainly sets the tone for alertness and watchfulness. You would think so, right? But there are many who place their own agenda, their own greed at times, before others’ needs. We don’t know when, but the promise of the coming of the Lord has been told time and time again. In Matthew 25, he tells the parable of the 10 bridesmaids. The 10 bridesmaids took their lamps to meet the bridegroom. Five took flask of oil, not knowing how long they had to wait. The bridegroom was delayed and the lamps became low on oil. The other five bridesmaids had to leave to get more oil, for they were not prepared. While they were gone the bride groom arrived taking only the five remaining bridesmaids to the wedding banquet, closing the door behind them. We must also be watchful and prepared for the day. Be joyous, for the Lord knows our true hearts and offers Redemption and life-everlasting for those who are prepared. Be alert and watchful in order to abide with the Lord In the kingdom of heaven on earth. Prayer: Merciful Lord, we watch and pray for the day of the Lord. Give us the will and strength to be prepared in heart, mind and spirit. Amen

#### Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Psalms 70:4-5 “Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your

salvation say evermore, ‘God is great!’ But I am poor and needy, hasten to me, oh God. You are my help and my deliverer, oh Lord, do not delay!” Let us repeat, “God is great!” We need the salvation this offers to comfort ourselves. Songs are sung joyously, declaring His greatness. Sermons repeat this message in meaningful words, spoken in all languages. Our world is in constant change. Due to the fear we have been subjected to; keeping us separated, I have suffered but I certainly do not feel poor or needy. God is my help and my deliverer. Our prayer of deliverance should keep us focused and watchful for the Lord’s rightful place in our hearts, homes and community. We are called to care for the poor and needy, physically and spiritually. Prayer: dear God, we who seek You will rejoice and be glad in You. We will be watchful, for God’s justice will prevail. Amen

### Justice...Take Action Written by Vernon Mukhlall

#### Wed Nov 11

#### God’s Word Is Permanent And Of Great Certainty

“Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” Matthew 24: 42–44. Many attempts have been made to predict the time of Jesus’ second coming. Even at this time as COVID-19 is spreading and taking lives throughout the world, many must have concluded that the end time is eminent.

God's Word is clear on this topic and it still stands. "The day or the hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son but only the Father" Matthew 24:36. These words spoken by Jesus are permanent and of great certainty. The disciples, out of curiosity or perhaps concern ask Jesus when He would have come in power and what they could expect then. Matthew 24:3. Out of His love and care for the disciples, Jesus pointed out that they should be less concerned in knowing the time and more concerned with being prepared. That is, living God's way consistently so that no matter when Jesus comes, they would be ready. We also need to know the ways of God who acts according to his timetable. So it is important for us to be prepared living each day in His will. Take action now to do what is pleasing to God today and every-day. Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are with me always. Teach me to recognize the signs of your presence in every season of my life. Make me steadfast in faith and hope. Plant your love within me and sustain me with your word. Amen.

**Thu Nov 12 Attitude Of Gratitude**

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18. Have you ever thought of counting your blessings, name them one by one, to see what God has done for you? Do you find yourself focusing on the adverse situation that you are going through at this time? Many of us may find it difficult to give thanks during difficult times because we do not rely on the Holy Spirit to help us strive to develop an attitude of gratitude. Paul says, "In everything give thanks". Although Paul went through shipwreck, imprisonment, was beaten, he still could give things to God, be-

cause he did not focus on the trials that he was going through but the blessings that God has poured out on him. As believers, thankfulness should characterize our lives in every circumstance. This is the will of God. Challenge yourself to take action in adopting an attitude of gratitude. Your attitude of thankfulness may be an important inspiration to others to do the same, nearby drawing them closer to God. Prayer: O God, it is your will that our lives should be characterized by thankfulness. Help me to live each day with an attitude of gratitude for your abounding grace. Amen.

**Fri Nov 13**

**Faithfulness to God**

"Therefore be very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, least you turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left." Joshua 23: 6. Joshua who was advanced in age (110 years) called the leaders of Israel and gave them his farewell speech. He reminded them how the Lord had worked on their behalf to expel the Canaanites and give the land to Israel. He also challenged them to remain faithful to the Lord and to be courageous to live according to God's commandments. God was loving and patient with Israel just as He is with us today. However, we should not confuse God's love and patience with us as approval for us to sin. God has shown us his mercy by working in our favor to bring us into a right relationship with Him through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. As Joshua encourages the Israelites to be faithful to the Lord, so we are called to take action to be faithful to the Lord and to encourage one another to do the same. Prayer: Almighty God, you have taught me to be faithful to you and to live according to your commands. Help me to

be faithful to you and to encourage others to do the same. Also for them to see that you are always faithful to your promises. Amen.

**Sat Nov 14**

**Do Justly, Walk Humbly, Love Mercy**

“He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8. Micah had the imagery of a court scene. God, the Judge, described what wrong His people had done to God and to others. The Lord demanded that the Israelites worship God with their sacrifices which they failed to do. God was patient and merciful with them. But now what God demands in verse 8 goes beyond the Law. God had made His wishes very clear. He demands His people to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. Our God is demanding the same from us. He wants us to have a transformed heart so that we may do what is right, be merciful as God has shown us mercy, and to be humble in our interaction with others. This can only be possible if we allow our Lord and Savior to live His life in and through us. God is eager for us to show the world what He is doing in and through us. People should be able to look and see in us something amazingly different about us. The abundant, Spirit-filled life that God has given us should be expressed in godly, obedient, and practical ways to those whom we come in contact with in our everyday lives. Prayer: Heavenly Father, you have taught us about justice, humility, and mercy. Grant me a transformed heart so that I may do what you require of me – to do what is right, be humble, and be merciful to others. Amen.

**Sun Nov 15 Take Action**

“For unto everyone that has shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that has not shall be taken away even that which he has.” Matthew 25:29. The business of investment in stocks at Wall Street is complicated for the ordinary people. What they do know is that people / corporations invest money so as to make more money. However, there are times when they may make a gain or a loss. Jesus is using the analogy of investment to explain what the Kingdom of God is like. A man gives different amount of talents [5, 2, 1] to three different servants. The one with five and the other with two talents, with ample time, have taken action to invest theirs and make double the amount. The third has taken no action and buried his one talent. The first two were rewarded equally for the returns to their investment “ruler of many things “. Their rewards were based on faithfulness and not on the size of their responsibilities. The third servant was wicked and unfaithful. The one talent that was given to him was even taken away. This is a case of use it or lose it. Preparing for the coming of Christ involves more than playing it safe and do nothing. One must take action in using his or her abilities, spiritual gifts, as well as material possessions to produce good fruits. God wants us to be faithful in service to Him and our neighbors. God rewards faithfulness. Prayer: Gracious God, you reward those who are faithful to you. Give me the inspiration to show my faithfulness by investing my time, abilities, spiritual gifts, and material possessions in the lives of others, so that they too may live a life of faithfulness to you. Amen.