

7 Apr 2013: Preached by Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Topic: **Our duties in waiting for the coming of Jesus Christ**

Scripture Text: 1 Peter 4:7-19

1. The stage is already set for our Lord Jesus Christ to come back to rule the world for a thousand years. The end is already coming as the Gospel has already gone out to many parts of the world. The Lord can come back anytime now but God is still very longsuffering towards us. While we wait, what must we do?

2. We must occupy and work hard till He comes. We cannot be lazy in doing God's work and will. While it is still day, let us work for the Lord.

3. Firstly, make sure we have a very close relationship and walk with our God. We have to be sober. Let God's Word control our whole mind, and we will then make good decisions in life. The Word of God will guard our minds from things that are sinful. We need a thirst and hunger for God's Word. Also, be watchful unto prayer. We need to be fully alert. Don't let the devil devour us and trap us.

4. Secondly, we must care and love one another. This love here is agape love (charity) - love in speech and deed. That always includes having a longsuffering attitude towards each other. Use hospitality towards one another without grudging.

5. Thirdly, use our spiritual gifts to serve the Lord. As we have received the gift, minister the same one to another. The Holy Spirit gives many gifts to the church and we have to use it to build up the church. Make sure we are good teachers of God's Word for those with the gift of teaching.

6. Finally, be ready for persecution. Don't find it a surprise if we are being tried and tested. There will be opposition when we want to speak about the Name of Christ. It is a test from Jesus whether we really love Him. Will we confess Him still or deny Him? It is only through trials that our faith will increase.