

THE SIGNS OF CHRIST'S COMING, PART 8:
READY OR NOT
(Matthew 24:36-51)

- I. A LIMITED Answer to the "WHEN" Question (Matt. 24:36, with v. 3)
 - A. GENERAL timing is indicated by the SIGNS described (see 24:4-34)
 - B. SPECIFIC timing is RESTRICTED information
 - 1. UNKNOWNABLE by man
 - 2. UNKNOWN by the ANGELS OF HEAVEN
 - 3. As yet, UNREVEALED to the SON
 - 4. Presently, KNOWN only by the FATHER
- II. A Description of Attitudes Needed by That GENERATION (Matt. 24:37-51, with v. 34)
 - A. They must be ALERT (24:37-42)
 - 1. Not as NOAH'S GENERATION
 - a. They were INATTENTIVE
 - b. They were UNCONCERNED
 - c. They were TAKEN AWAY by the FLOOD
 - 2. But at the LORD'S RETURN

- a. Unbelievers will be TAKEN to JUDGMENT
 - b. Believers will be LEFT in the KINGDOM
 - c. All must be ALERT, because they don't know the DAY
- B. They must be READY (24:43-44; cf. 25:1-13)
- 1. The SIGNS will indicate the CERTAINTY of His coming
 - 2. They won't KNOW the PRECISE time of His coming
 - a. His coming will not be in CHARACTER like a thief's
 - b. His coming will be in STEALTH like a thief's
 - 3. They must BELIEVE in Christ BEFORE He comes
- C. They must be FAITHFUL (24:45-51; cf. 25:14-30)
- 1. All HUMANS are slaves ACCOUNTABLE to the CREATOR
 - 2. Some are "FAITHFUL," or "BELIEVING"
 - a. They DO the Master's WILL
 - b. They will be REWARDED when He COMES
 - 3. Others are "EVIL," or UNBELIEVING
 - a. They DENY the Master is COMING
 - b. They DEFY the Master's WILL
 - c. They will be DAMNED with the HYPOCRITES