**Be Ready!**

2 Peter 3:10-11

In the book of 2 Peter, we are instructed to be ready for the day the Lord returns. In verse 10, we read: *"But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.”* This verse is an important reminder that the day of the Lord’s return will come unexpectedly, catching many unprepared.

Being ready for the day of the Lord is a choice that requires intentional preparation. In verse 11, Peter writes*, “Since everything will be destroyed this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives.”* This verse challenges us to examine our lives and ensure we align ourselves with God’s will and purpose.

So, how can we actively live out the command to be ready for the day of the Lord’s return? First, we must prioritize our relationship with God through prayer, studying His word, and spending time with other believers. When we pray and study His word, we are better equipped to discern God’s voice and align our lives with His will. Neglecting Bible study/reading and prayer and not connecting with other believers can weaken one's relationship with God. When there is no accountability, it can also lead to justifying living in sin.

Secondly, we must strive to live holy and godly lives, as Peter instructs in verse 11. This involves making daily choices that honor God and demonstrate our commitment to following His ways. Whether it is showing our love for others through acts of kindness, forgiveness, or humility, every decision we make should reflect our desire to obey God.

In addition, we must remain vigilant and alert, always watching for signs of the Lord’s return. While we do not know the exact timing of this event, we can be assured that it will come like a thief in the night. Therefore, we must not grow complacent or apathetic in our faith but instead remain steadfast in our commitment to always be ready.

The command to be ready for the day of the Lord’s return is an important reminder for all believers. As we await this momentous event, let us prioritize our relationship with God, strive to live holy and godly lives, and remain vigilant in our faith. By actively living out this command, we can ensure that we are prepared for the day when the Lord returns, and we will hear Him say, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Elder Shirley Freeman