

Jesus is Coming Soon

By Evan Fry

The Manner of His Coming: Some confusion of differences in the way Christ's coming is described are difficult to reconcile. His coming in clouds of great glory, when every eye shall see...with his coming "as a thief in the night". A thief comes quietly, does his work and is gone. It is not difficult to reconcile if we start with the concept that Jesus is not coming just one more time, but that he may come several times—at least twice after his birth.

We should be expecting him in the right time and place and way: We shall be just as surprised if we are looking for him in the wrong manner, as if we were not looking for him at all. At his birth the Jews thought they were watching for him, but they were looking for a conquering and liberating Messiah, not for a babe or a suffering servant to be crucified. Obviously, the birth of Jesus was in the first watch. It would seem, that there may be two more general comings: one as a thief and one in glory.

For, behold, he cometh in the first watch of the night, and he shall also come in the second watch, and again he shall come in the third watch. And verily I say unto you, He hath already come, as it is written of him; and again when he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, blessed are those servants when he cometh, that he shall find so doing... (Luke 12:41-42).

The 12th Chapter of Luke has a list of things to accomplish:

- 12:17-23 Teaches against covetousness. It is the parable of the rich man.
- 12:16-33 Counsels against worry over solicitude in matters of meat and drink.
- 12:37 *For where your treasure is there will your heart be also.*
- 12:38-39 *...have your lights burning...*

The time when we and the world must give an account of our stewardship is drawing nigh... We cannot procrastinate the days of our probation, and suddenly get ready when we see the sign of our coming Lord in the heavens. **Behave each day as if he were expected.**