

## Matthew 24: 36-44

<sup>36</sup> “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

## Isaiah 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the LORD’s house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

## Matthew Questions

- How patient are you?
  - How are you at waiting?
- What are you hearing here?
- What is this telling you about the coming?
- What does being ready look like?
- What does being ready look like for you?
- What is the rapture?
  - How do you understand the rapture?
- What are we waiting and called to be ready for?
  - Can we be “ready” 100% of the time?
  - What is our role in our neighbors’ readiness?
  - Where does patience come into play here?
- Where does HOPE enter this equation?
- If we’re called to patient, and called to be ready how might that evoke an action based response?
- How could this be an advent text?

## Isaiah Questions:

- Where are we headed?
- What defines the people of God? What should we “look” like to the world?
- How can we walk in the Lords Light?
- How can we make a way for peace?
- How can we take those tools and beat them into something useful?
- Many times we talk about the journey of faith without adequately describing (as Isaiah does) what the destination looks like. What is the Kingdom of God? What does the Kingdom of God look like for your community?
- Does our church today look anything like this picture? In what ways does it, or doesn’t it?
- How do these visions guide your ministry as an individual and ours as a church?
- God’s vision is universal and rejects nationalistic triumphalism or the victory of any one political ideology. War does not lead to peace, division does not lead to peace, only relying on God’s love, forgiveness and grace leads to peace. Is this good or bad news?
- How do these two pieces relate to one another?