

Be Prepared (and Patient)

Everyone wants to know the future.

Matthew 24:1-4 NIV

1. **Jesus is returning, and will bring a reckoning.**

What do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds.

Matthew 16:26-27

2. **We do not, will not, and cannot know the time.**

But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Matthew 24:36

3. **We should be ready.**

A prince once went to a foreign country to be crowned king and then to return. But before leaving, he called in ten servants and gave each of them some money. He told them, "Use this to earn more money until I get back."

Luke 19:12-13 CEV

4. **We should not become deceived by the world.**

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

Colossians 2:8

Understanding the Mark of the Beast and 666.

Revelation 13:16-18

How are we in danger of being deceived today?

- 5. We should be patient for God's good and perfect purposes.**

With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief...

2 Peter 3:8-10

- 6. We should be encouraged.**

God's perfect goodness wins, so we win too!