



Redeeming Notes

Pastor John Niewald

November 27, 2005

"Are You Ready?", Mark 13:34-37

Two Observations

1) Jesus says that his return will be **surprising**

Signs

1. Fall of Jerusalem
2. Time of persecution
3. Gospel preached to all nations

Everything has been fulfilled for Christ to return. We are in the **anticipatory** stage of history

2) Jesus' return will be **decisive**

"...and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth." Revelation 1:5

Jesus' lordship extends to **every area** of society

Two Implications

- 1) Are you living your life with a due sense of **passionate urgency**?
- 2) You ought to be people with **outrageous hopefulness**

FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. How are you living your life with an appropriate sense of urgency? (What might hinder you from living your life this way?)
2. How are you loving people God is calling you to love?
3. Where are there areas of unresolved "stuff" with people? What is one thing you can do to move forward this Advent season?
4. Pastor John said that "everything you have is on loan from God." How is this true in your life? Where is it not true? What do you have a hard time letting go of?
5. How can you better use your resources and blessings from God to bless others?

Ice Breakers: Share a family Christmas tradition.
How are you going to celebrate Christmas this year?