

From the Family Room

**Creekwood Church of Christ
Mobile, AL**

24 September, 2017

SEPTEMBER 23, 2017

“But about that actual day and time no one knows—not even the angels of Heaven, nor the Son, only the Father. For just as life went on in the days of Noah so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood people were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage until the very day that Noah went into the ark, and knew nothing about the flood until it came and destroyed them all. So will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. You must be on the alert then, for you do not know when your master is coming. You can be sure of this, however, that if the householder had known what time of night the burglar would arrive, he would have been ready for him and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. That is why you must always be ready, for you do not know what time the Son of Man will arrive.”

Matthew 24:36-39, 42-44

I guess you will be reading this on Sunday morning, September 24, 2017. If that is true, the modern day “prophets” have missed again. The latest buzz by some “Christians” is that on September 23, 2017, the planets, sun, and moon will be aligned in a manner that is very rare. The sun will be in the constellation Virgo (the virgin) while Jupiter will be near the womb of Virgo. They interpret this as Virgo giving birth to a child. The moon is at the feet of the woman and the planets Mercury, Venus, and Mars will be nearby in Leo. They believe that this is fulfillment of the opening of the sixth seal of the scroll where the woman gave birth to the child in Revelation 12. Some say this is a sign of the return of Jesus on September 23. Others are hesitant to say this directly but imply it to be probable.

There is a lot that is questionable about all of this prediction of the return of the Lord. However, there is much that is beyond question about His return. Jesus clearly states certain details. We know for sure that –

- Jesus will return to earth as our judge (Matthew 25:31, 32)
- We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ (II Corinthians 5:10)
- We should be on the alert for the coming of the Lord (Matthew 24:42, 44)
- Nobody but God knows when that will happen – not even the angels or Jesus (Matthew 24:36)
- Jesus will welcome some into eternal life – just a few (Matthew 7:14; 25:34-40, 46)
- Jesus will send some to eternal punishment – unfortunately many (Matthew 7:13, 21-23; 25:41-46)
- God loves us and does not want anyone to perish (II Peter 3:9)

So, based on what is conjecture and what we know for sure, we should act wisely regarding the return of Jesus Christ. We should avoid setting dates for His return. Rather we should be ready for Jesus to return on any day at any time.

How can I be ready for Jesus’ return? We must believe and confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who died for our sins and was resurrected from the tomb. We must be truly sorry for our sins and change our life. We must have our sins washed clean and be born again by being baptized into Christ’s death and being raised up to live our new life in Him. We continue to learn about God from scripture and our faith grows stronger. We continue to mature spiritually until we grow up into Him. Jesus will truly become our Lord and our Savior. We look forward to serving others and teaching them the good news of Jesus Christ. About these things there can be no doubt.

Am I ready?

RICKY