

The Unexpected Hour

December 17, 2023 Pastor Todd McAllister

Introduction: Advent (from Latin “adventus” (coming)), in the Christian church calendar, the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas and also of preparation for the Second Coming of Christ.

Advent: a season of _____

“The Christmas We Didn’t Expect” p. 105

“You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” Matthew 24:44

What does He say you must be to be _____?
Matthew 24:45-51

Be faithful

Be wise

How would you be described if Christ returned now?

“A Spirit-awakened love for the Second Coming is not a Christ-neglecting fascination with an event. It is a Christ-enthralled longing for His presence and His glory.” *John Piper*

(Continued on other side)

The Unexpected Hour (continued)

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How is the second _____ of Jesus described?
2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

Context: believers enduring _____
2 Thess. 1:4-6

An unexpected picture of Christ

Granting _____ to the afflicted

_____ vengeance on the disobedient
2 Thess. 1:7-9

An expected focus-- 2 Thess. 1:10-12

_____ in His saints

_____ at among all who believe

“There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.”
2 Timothy 4:8

When Jesus returns for you, how will you be described?

- Wicked or wise?
- Lazy or faithful?
- Disobedient or ready?
- Loving yourself or loving His appearing?

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Advent: a season of waiting

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The Unexpected Hour (continued)

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How is the second advent of Jesus described?
2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

Context: believers enduring affliction
2 Thess. 1:4-6

An unexpected picture of Christ

Granting relief to the afflicted

Inflicting vengeance on the disobedient
2 Thess. 1:7-9

An expected focus-- 2 Thess. 1:10-12

Glorified in His saints

Marveled at among all who believe

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