

5 Day Devotional for the week of December 21, 2025

This five day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into the sermon from this weekend. We will journey through themes of anticipation, readiness, and personal transformation in light of the message of hope and redemption brought to us by Jesus' arrival and his imminent return.

Day 1

Scripture: Matthew 24:30 Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.

In the first coming of Jesus, only a select few were aware of the significance of His arrival. This mirrors how often we may overlook His presence in our day-to-day lives. By taking a step back and reflecting on the meaning of the Incarnation, we align ourselves with the deep truth that Jesus' birth marked the beginning of a new era of hope and redemption.

As we anticipate His second coming, we're reminded of the importance of being prepared and vigilant. Just as the shepherds were the first to witness the miracle of His birth, we too can be attentive to the spiritual insights and revelations that God wants to share with us today. We are called to live with an awareness that time is precious and that spiritual readiness is essential.

- Are you living with the awareness of Christ's presence in your life?
- How do you prepare spiritually for His return?
- In what ways can you share the message of Jesus' coming with others?
- Pray for guidance to remain vigilant and ready for His return.
- Ask God to open your eyes to His presence in everyday moments.

Day 2

Scripture: Revelation 19:11-16 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice He judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head are many crowns. He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following Him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of His mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Jesus' first arrival was marked by humility and servitude, symbolized by His birth in a manger and His life of sacrifice. However, in His second coming, He will be revealed in glory and majesty, a reminder of His sovereignty and power. This transformation from meekness to majesty is a powerful illustration of the fullness of Christ.

Our lives, likewise, are a journey of transformation. By embracing the new life offered through Jesus, we are empowered to move from spiritual poverty to the richness of life He has promised. This day calls us to reflect on our personal transformation and our walk with Jesus, ensuring that we are becoming more like Him every day.

- Reflect on the transformation in your own life since accepting Christ.
- How does knowing Jesus will return in power influence your faith?
- In what ways can you reflect Christ's righteousness in your daily life?
- Thank God for the transformation He is working in your life.
- Pray for courage to live according to His will and purpose.

Day 3

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶ "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' ⁷ "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' ⁹ "No," they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. ¹¹ "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!' ¹² "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.' ¹³ "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

The parable of the ten virgins reminds us of the critical importance of being prepared for the Lord's return. While all ten were waiting, only five were truly ready. This highlights the necessity of maintaining a personal, vibrant relationship with Jesus that goes beyond surface-level faith.

We are encouraged to evaluate where we stand spiritually, ensuring that we are living a life of obedience and readiness. Let this be a day of soul searching, where we ask ourselves whether we are like the wise virgins, ready to meet the bridegroom at any moment.

- Are you spiritually prepared for when Christ returns?
- Do you have reserves of faith, like oil in a lamp, prepared for challenging times?
- What steps can you take to deepen your relationship with Jesus?
- Seek God's wisdom to help you remain spiritually prepared.
- Pray that your heart stays alert and ready.

Day 4

Scripture: Revelation 1:7 "Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen.

Every eye will see Him when He comes again. This powerful imagery serves to remind us that Jesus' return will be undeniable and significant to all. We are called to live each day with the knowledge that Christ's return is imminent and of utmost importance.

Our response to this truth should be a life characterized by hope and resilience. Instead of reacting to fear and uncertainty, we should find rest and confidence in knowing that our King is coming back, and when He does, it will be a moment of unparalleled significance.

- How does the certainty of Christ's return impact your daily life?
- How can you prepare to visibly represent Christ to the world?
- What fears do you need to overcome to live a life of unwavering faith?
- Pray for strength and assurance in the promise of Christ's return.
- Ask for guidance in living a life that honors His impending arrival.

Day 5

Scripture: Luke 2:8-15 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

As we conclude this devotional journey, the shepherds' story reminds us of the joy and wonder that comes with recognizing Jesus' presence. Though they were simple, unsuspecting individuals, the shepherds had their lives transformed by witnessing the birth of Christ.

Let this be an encouragement that no matter where we are in life, Jesus' presence can bring about profound change and joy. May you find peace and joy in knowing that Christ's light has the power to transform even the darkest of circumstances, and let this hope carry you forward as you anticipate His return.

- Have you experienced the joy of encountering Jesus recently?
- How can you share this joy with others in your community?
- In what ways can you remain vigilant for Christ's presence in your daily life?
- Thank God for the joy that His presence brings into our lives.
- Seek ways to remain connected to His unending joy and peace.