

Title: The Lord Will Serve Us

Scripture: Luke 12: 37

Date: 9-13-2009

Place: Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Princeton, NJ

**Luke 12: 37: Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.**

Have you ever asked yourself the question, "What does my life consist of?" There are only two kinds of people in this world, those whose life consists of ministering to others and those whose life consists of being ministered to.

Everyone in this world has to live, it is a necessity that we eat and that we clothe ourselves. Many have a thought of ministering to others but sadly, our thoughts run like this: first, let us save up enough for ourselves so that we may minister to others have security, peace while we do so.

Yet, enough never comes, security peace never comes, and none but self is ever served. Is that what your life consists of?

In this parable, the Lord Jesus Christ lifts the hearts of his servants away from this world to that day of eternal happiness by giving us this most amazing expectation:

**Luke 12: 37: Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.**

Stop for a moment and think on that. Can we really look forward to God our Savior, the Creator of heaven and earth, our Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, girding himself, making us to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve us?

### **BE SURE WE GET THE CONTEXT**

Our Lord began giving these parables because of something that was said by those who heard him.

Luke 12: 13: And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me. 14: And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you? 15: And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Then in each of these parables he turns the hearts of his saints toward heaven and away from this earth.

Luke 12: 23: The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment... 30: For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things...31: But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you...34: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

So here is our Lord's instruction to us, brethren:

**Luke 12: 35: Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning; 36: And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. 37: Blessed *are* those servants, whom the**

lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. 38: And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find *them* so, blessed are those servants. 39: And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. 40: Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

I want to concentrate on verse 37 for our divisions:

## I. (v37) BLESSED ARE THOSE SERVANTS

### A. Christ Jesus is our Lord and we are his servants.

This is true of all men and women, even those who do not believe on Christ. The sovereign King of heaven and earth is accomplishing his purpose even by the use of those who yet hate him.

Yet, of all the descriptions with which the scriptures describes believers one of the most common is, "servants." As our Lord's servants he says to you and I who trust him:

**Luke 12: 35: Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning;**

### B. Our garment and the oil which lights us is the righteousness of Christ our Lord, the Oil of gladness wherein we rejoice in the goodness of our Master.

The parable speaks of servants waiting on their lord who is soon to return from a wedding.

**Luke 12: 36: And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding;**

If Christ is indeed your life then you are born of the seed of him who has everlastingly served you. Think on that!

Before God made time, as the Surety of his elect, in the eternal covenant the Son of God served himself as payment in full before ever yet our debt was incurred. Like Judah said unto Israel his father concerning his brother Benjamin:

Genesis 43: 9: I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him: if I bring him not unto thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever:

In the fullness of time, as the Representative of his elect, as the Author of faith he came to this sin cursed earth and served in complete faithfulness for his bride.

Philippians 2: 7: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Try to put yourself in that place that night after he ate the supper with his apostles. They began to argue over who would be greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Oh, how we foolishly desire to exalt ourselves! If our council is not heeded or if another's council goes against our own desires; if we think our riches, our reputation, our resolve will be lessened, how our old nature desires to be regarded as the great "king", as exercising "lordship" as being the great "benefactors" of those we regard as being beneath us

Luke 22: 25: And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. 26: But ye *shall* not *be* so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. 27: For whether *is* greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? *is* not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

The Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God--equal with God, one with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit, making himself of no reputation dwelt with us--sinners, who were by nature children of wrath, God-haters, at enmity against God, boasting of our great, grand reputation as a basis for why we should be greatest. Yet, he served us as he served for us...like unto Jacob who:

Genesis 29: 20: And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him *but* a few days, for the love he had to her.

Our Lord said,

Luke 12: 32: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

And he said to his apostles that night,

Luke 22: 29: And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; 30: That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Not only this but as our Substitute he served the Father by giving his life that he might have his bride

Philippians 2: 7: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Matthew 20: 28: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Galatians 3:13: Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse...for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:

In this parable in Luke, he speaks of the Lord who shall return from the wedding. Jesus Christ is not only our Lord who is soon to return but he is our Bridegroom. Through the shameful cross, through the grave, he went to prepare a place for his Bride, to make ready all things for the great Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Ephesians 5: 25:...Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26: That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27: That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

He has gone into heavens glory where even now he serves as our great King, our High Priest, our Advocate with the Father. This is the garment wherewith our loins are girded. This is the oil that keeps our lamps burning. This is the fresh courage that gives us the patience of hope, that keeps us waiting and watching for our Lord...

Romans 8:32: He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

**Luke 12: 35: Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning;**

C. And be sure you put on these garments by faith in Christ.

Feed the soul, not the flesh.

Make time to read his precious words of promise in these scriptures. Read these scriptures for yourself and read them to your children--Father's, do you know what it is not to provoke our children to wrath? It is to raise them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord rather than train them up to be world lings.

Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together.

Isaiah 35:10: And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Make your brethren your constant companions and have no fellowship with children of darkness. In times of trouble, are you strengthened by the company of unbelievers or by your brethren? Is it the languages of the world that comforts you or the language of Canaan? Is it the songs of the drunkards are the spiritual songs of our Savior?

Ephesians 5:19: Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

Pray continually. Stay ever in the closet of your hearts. Communing with your Lord. Ask for fresh views of him. Beg his mercy and his grace. He has given you access.

Hebrews 4:16: Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Live every day in the realization that whatever God has put in your hands to do, you are do it, not unto men, but ye serve the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3: 23: And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24: Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

This is what it is to **Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning.** Put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Isaiah 52:1: Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

**II. (Luke 12: 37) Our Lord says that those servants will be happy, WHOM THE LORD WHEN HE COMETH SHAL FIND WATCHING**

A. The Lord Jesus Christ is returning soon.

We are about to remember our Lord by taking this broken, unleavened bread and this pure, wine that has endured the wine press. Paul told the Corinthians:

I Corinthians 11: 26: For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Christ our Lord is sending forth this Gospel into all the world. By the power of his grace, he bringing all his elect into union with him. Soon that last one will be brought in. Then our Lord will descend from heaven, and take us to himself.

B. When he cometh he SHALL find. Will he find you watching?

**Luke 12: 36: And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately....**

Look over to Luke 14: 16-24. Will you be too busy?

**Luke 12: 38: And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find *them* so,...[watching, waiting, anticipating he return]...blessed are those servants. 39: And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. 40: Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.**

C. Question: Why is it that the Father has hidden the time of our Lord's return so that no man knows or can know?

If this world knew that the Lord Jesus Christ was returning this morning, then yesterday, and last month, and all the years leading up to this morning, they would live like hell itself, but this morning they would either be hiding themselves or every meeting house in this world would be packed full of people putting on the pretense that they've been waiting all along. Because the natural man's desire is not for the Lord, but to merely escape hell. That is one reason why only the Lord knows when he shall return.

Those who truly watch...have been doing so since the day he visited us in his divine power and we shall continue to do so by his sovereign grace, because our delight is the PERSON of our Lord. Those who love the Lord want to be where the Lord's people are. They want to be where the righteous person, the Lord Jesus Christ, is high and lifted up. They want to be where the Lord's works are declared

Titus 2:11: For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12: Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; 13: Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14: Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Though we hate our sin, though we find no peace from this world, though we desire to be delivered from it, grace causes the believer to live every hour in anticipation that today might be the day that we see our Beloved Master face-to-face.

Psalms 17: 15: As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

**Luke 12: 40: Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.**

**III. Luke 12: 37: Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT HE SHALL GIRD HIMSELF, AND MAKE THEM TO SIT DOWN TO MEAT, AND WILL COME FORTH AND SERVE THEM.**

Let that sink in! In great mercy and grace, in that great type of our King's grace, Mephibosheth was brought by the command of David--he was made to sit at the king's table as one of the king's sons all his life, and he was lame on both his feet. Here we have something far greater!

When our Lord bids his saints to the marriage supper of the Lamb, there will be no one at the King's table who are lame. This mortality will have put on immortality, this corruption will have put on incorruption. But something even greater than that is said here!

David did not do the serving to Mephibosheth. But at King Jesus' table, the one who here on earth lay aside his garment and washed the disciples feet, this King who has everlastingly served for his bride, shall yet gird himself, and come forth and serve those he had redeemed!

Revelation 7: 17: For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

1 Corinthians 2:9: But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

I don't pretend to understand the fullness of such righteousness but this I know--our great King and Savior who is preeminent in all things, has the preeminence in serving. He will serve us without measure or limitation, delighting for us to have and enjoy all that he has, all that he enjoys, and all that he is! There is no degree of honor, glory, happiness, and bliss that the Lord Jesus Christ will withhold from us in eternity.—“Christ shall gird himself and serve us!”

Ephesians 2:7: That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

In that day we will *comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and know the love of Christ that passeth knowledge, and be filled with all the fulness of God!*

**Application:** Now, for those of you who are yet holding on the fools gold of this world, I pray God would make you see the vanity of your dung-jewels. Seek Christ today! Beg him to be merciful to you today!

But for those of you who are watching and waiting by his grace, what shall we say to these things?

Romans 8:18: For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are not worthy to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

1 Corinthians 15: 57: But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.