

Long
Expected
Jesus

He is Coming - Sunday, November 26

“The truest darkness is not
absence of light but that light will
never return”

- Lois Lane, *Justice League*

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While we wait....

- The circumstances of life can create darkness all around us
- Waiting can be amplified or ignored, depending on circumstances

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Israel's waiting was amplified

- Waiting on the promise of the Messiah
- 400 year silence from God
- Rome occupied Israel

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Mark 13:24-37

“At that time, after the anguish of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will give no light, ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then everyone will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And he will send out his angels to gather his chosen ones from all over the world—from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.

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Mark 13:24-37

“Now learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branches bud and its leaves begin to sprout, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ In the same way, when you see all these things taking place, you can know that his return is very near, right at the door. ³⁰ I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass from the scene before all these things take place.

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Mark 13:24-37

³¹ Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear. ³² “However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows. ³³ And since you don’t know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert! ³⁴ “The coming of the Son of Man can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip.

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Mark 13:24-37

When he left home, he gave each of his slaves instructions about the work they were to do, and he told the gatekeeper to watch for his return. ³⁵ You, too, must keep watch! For you don't know when the master of the household will return—in the evening, at midnight, before dawn, or at daybreak. ³⁶ Don't let him find you sleeping when he arrives without warning. ³⁷ I say to you what I say to everyone: Watch for him!"

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God's response to Israel's waiting

- Silence was broken by The Word of God; Jesus!
 - God was still there
 - They matter to God

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God's response to Israel's waiting

- God gives hope
 - The Temple will fall
 - But, Jesus IS coming again
 - Don't despair

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Jesus's instructions & warnings

- Be ready... Keep watch...
 - Engage the waiting, don't ignore it
 - Slow down
 - Intentionally focus on the lives around you

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How are you allowing God to speak
into the silence and suffering of
others, through you?

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Jesus's instructions & warnings

- He is coming... There is hope...
 - We eagerly await His return
 - Don't become weary; our waiting isn't pointless

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Cling to the hope of Jesus Christ -
He is coming again and
God has more to say than the
circumstances we see around us

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How should we live?

- We are people of Hope
 - Take the opportunity in waiting to engage those around you
 - Don't be consumed by the busyness of the season
 - Hope can be seen in the way you live your life!

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How should we live?

- We are people of Hope
 - Hope can be known in Jesus Christ!
 - We know Jesus is coming, again
 - He will make all things right

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“The truest darkness is not
absence of light, but that light will
never return... But the light always
returns... Hope is real.

You can see it.”

- Lois Lane, *Justice League*

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A lit candle in a dark setting with bokeh lights in the background. The candle is lit, and its flame is bright. The background is dark with several out-of-focus light spots (bokeh). The text "He Is Coming" is written in white cursive script over the candle and background.

He Is
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