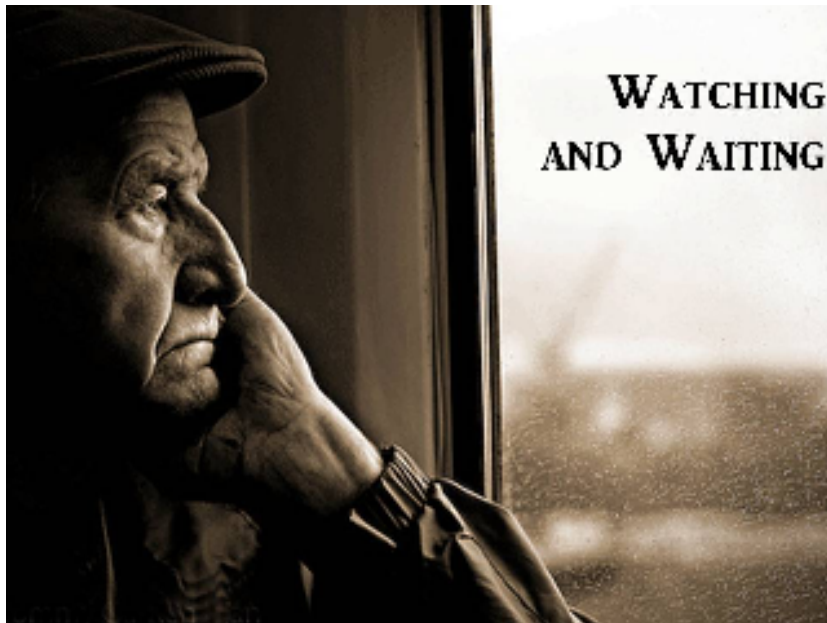


Being Faithful
Luke 12:35-48

Peter Roebbelen
March 21, 2010



The Context

- **The Loving God vs the Disciplining God**
- **Discipline can be a form of love**
- **God's core character is love**

The Story

This is a parable that teaches us how we ought to live. It's not about God, it's about us.

The return of the master is good news for the faithful but bad news for the unfaithful.

***"Cut him to pieces"* means to receive a severe punishment. It is not to be taken literally.**

***"A place with the unbelievers"* could also be translated as *"a place with the unfaithful"*.**

The story is for everyone – but especially for those who have responsibility in the Kingdom.

Pre-occupation with the End Times borders on divination – trying to peek into the future.

Rather than worrying about the future, we are to be living faithfully today.

1. The Master is coming back.

- **This world as we know it will come to an end.**

2. We are called to be faithful servants in God's house.

- **This is still God's house and we are to take care of it.**

3. We will be rewarded or punished based on our faithfulness.

- **There is a refining and disciplining of believers that prepares us for life in the new kingdom.**

For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. Romans 14:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Cor. 5:10

If any man builds on this foundation (referring to the foundation laid by Jesus Christ) using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames. 1 Cor. 3:12-15

**Our salvation is not in question.
Everything else will be tested
- either refined or burned up.**

Things to Think About:

As you think about the return of Christ, what feelings, thoughts or questions come to mind?

This passage teaches that even believers will be judged for how they have lived their lives. What's your reaction to that reality?

Where are you being faithful?

What in your life needs to be burned away?

Are you ready to meet Jesus?
