

Mosaic Teaching Guide

First Sunday of Advent 2010

Teaching Series: *Advent Living*

Teaching One: *Get Ready, Remain Alert, Stay Awake*

Isaiah 2.1-4

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Matthew 24.36-44

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Question for Everyone: Have you started to listen to Christmas music yet?

Questions for Reflection: (1) If you could change one thing about the current state of the world, what would you change? (2) Have you ever attended a church that talked a lot about "the rapture?" How did you respond to this teaching? (3) What are the problems with people who spend a great deal of time speculating about how the world will end? What is the problem with never thinking about the end? (4) How are judgment and justice related? How do you respond to the Christian confession, *Christ will come to judge the living and the dead*? (5) "*Make sure your life counts for the things that count for God.*" This is how Pastor Rob summed up his teaching on Sunday. Prayerfully consider the implications of this statement.

