

chapters he makes statements like this one in chapter 24 verse 35, 36
But of that day and hour knoweth no man, not the angels in heaven, but
my father only. And you look on down to verse 42 and you read Watch
therefore, for you know not what hour your Lord might come, death come,
verse 44 says Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as you think not, the
Son of man cometh, and the next chapter, verse 13 says Watch therefore
for ye know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh, there are
a dozen cases in the New Testament where this exhortation is given, but
well, if you don't know the day nor the hour, we don't know that it is going
to be this year, he says in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of
Man cometh. He wants us to be ready whenever he comes, but he wants
us to plan our lives as if we had a whole life to live, and if He finds
you faithfully preparing to make your life to count for the utmost for
him, he will be just as happy as if He found you having rushed into phases
of work before you were ready and neglected the training that
would be so useful. Incidentally, this English is a little bit confusing, ^{this word,} watch
therefore, because we can get an idea from it that is different from what the
Greek means. We say, Watch, so and so is coming through, let's watch,
and we are apt to be at the window, watching all the time. That is not what
this word watch means. This word watch in the Greek means, to be wide awake
--be vigilant, be on the job and the illustration he gives, like in verse 45,
Matt. 24:45, Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord
has made lord over his household, to give them meat, that's old English
English for food, in due season, blessed is that servant whom His Lord
when he cometh shall find so doing. To watch means to be on the job serving
the Lord. It doesn't mean to be abandoning the task that he wants you to do