

well, then shouldn't we be thumbing our papers very carefully for the signs of His coming, shouldn't we send somebody out every hour to look up in the sky to see if they see any signs of His coming? I think in 1000 A.D. ~~w~~ there were quite a number of people who sold everything they had and went up on the hills ~~and~~ in white garments to wait for the Lord's coming. In 1881 there was another large group that did that. Time after time people have said, this is when Jesus is coming, we see the signs of His coming, let's be ready. But He says in such an hour as ye think not, He says be ye also ready. You don't know when He is coming, always be ready, watch therefore. Well, if we don't know and can't tell, why should we keep watching. What's the point? The answer to this problem, as to so many others, is immediately found when we look in our Hebrew Bibles.

Our English word "watch" has a number of meanings, we have watched for the coming of the train, and when we see it coming, we holler, "Here, the train is coming, hurry up and get here before it arrives." But we watch somebody who sits and plays the piano. We are not looking for ~~w~~ something to happen, we are observing what is occurring. And Paul said that he was in watchings oft, and he didn't mean either one, he had a different meaning altogether. Old English, largely lost today, ~~but~~ ~~y~~ in Old English, watching meant being awake, and these two Greek words which are used, that were translated "watch", both of them mean not to be looking to ~~w~~ see when something happens, but they mean "be ~~w~~ide awake," "be vigilant," be on the job. And in the statement in Luke 12 we notice, what does he say that the servants should be doing when their master comes. ~~y~~ Running to the window and looking to see if he is coming. Oh look I see his carriage coming round the corner, we better get everything straightened for him. Not at all, he is giving his people their meat in due season, he is vigilant, he is on the job, he is keeping himself from everything that defiles. He is putting the Lord first in His life, so that when He comes, ~~He~~ finds him ~~wat~~ching. In other words, He finds him wide awake, finds him on the job, finds him ~~serv~~ing the Lord effectively. Watch ye therefore, for ye