I Wish We’d All Been Ready

Have you ever been listening to a sermon or lecture and started thinking about something else, then missed part of what was being said? I have. I think Thomas must have done the same thing. Jesus was comforting the disciples and said, “I’m going away, but I’ll come back for you.” That woke Thomas up. He suffered from the same foot-in-mouth disease that Peter had and blurted out the first thought in his head. “Where are You going and how do we get there?” Jesus was talking about one of the most exciting aspects of Christianity in modern times. Jesus was talking about His return to earth to snatch believers out of this wicked world. One day soon, there will be the sound of a trumpet, we will see Jesus, and be caught up into heaven in the twinkling of an eye.

In John 14:1-6, Jesus is talking to the disciples and He tells them not to worry about the things of earth: the persecutions, the sin that surrounds us, or anything else. Because they believed in God, they should also believe in Him because He is God. Then He gave them a glimpse of heaven. He tells the disciples God has a place for them and He says, “I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:3).

Back in the Jesus Movement days, the main topic every Bible teacher was teaching was the rapture of the church. Today, we need to recapture enthusiasm for the imminent return of Christ. At no other time in history, since the days of Noah, has there been more violence, more perversion, more greed, or corruption. Many people today are not aware of the warning signs. We must be careful where we go, what we do, and what we bring into our homes. One day very soon, Jesus will return to take us out of here. It will be like a thief in the night; we won’t know when it will be and we will be surprised like the people of Noah’s day. While we wait for that glorious day, we have a lot to do. We need to tell people about the love of God and that He is coming back. I plan to be ready when He arrives. How about you?

Timothy Peters