

***“STAY ALERT” Series***

Message #4 of 5

**“THE DAYS OF NOAH”**

*Being ready for Jesus’ imminent return, means keeping watch so that the thief doesn’t break into your house.*

Matthew 24:37-44 / May 26, 2019

**1. HOW IT WAS ... IN THE DAYS OF NOAH – Corruption & Destruction**

*“People were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark. And they knew nothing about what would happen.” - v.38-39a*

*“Every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.” – Genesis 6:5, 11, 12*

**2. HOW IT WILL BE ... IN THE CURRENT ‘DAYS OF NOAH’ – Immorality**

*“This is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man ... They knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away.” - v.39*

*“For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.” – Jude 1:4*

*“In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.” – Jude 1:7*

*“Having a form of godliness but denying its power.” – 2 Timothy 3:1-5*

**3. WHAT IT WILL LOOK LIKE ... “TAKEN AWAY” – Judgment**

*“The flood came and took them all away ... One will be taken ... one will be taken.” - v.40*

*“God did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others.” – 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 2:5*

**4. WHAT IT WILL REQUIRE ... “KEEP WATCH” – Unexpected (Surprise)**

*“Keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” - v.42*

- “We don’t know and cannot know ‘the day nor the hour.’ Instead, we are called to ‘watch and pray’ here and now, living and growing in love toward God and neighbor. Our doctrine, consistent with historical Christian doctrine, focuses not on the ‘order of things to come,’ but on the ‘order of salvation’ – prevenient grace, justifying grace, sanctifying grace, and the assurance of salvation that God pours abroad in our hearts.” – Rev. Dan Benedict and Rev. Taylor Burton-Edwards @ [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)

*“The Lord knows how to rescue godly people from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment.” – 2nd Peter 2:9*

**5. WHAT IS AT STAKE ... “YOUR HOUSE” – Broken Into**  
*“If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into.” - v.43*

- Your life, your family, your church, your community.

*“The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy.” – John 10:10*