

The Barnabas Letter

The summer is coming to a close, in this month we can see the beginning of the end. True, the days are still warm and the skies are still clear but we know that in just a little while, autumn will be upon us. In the very same way we know that the time of our Lord return is drawing ever closer and while it may not happen during our short time upon this earth it very well could. It is, therefore, our duty to be ready should we be so fortunate as to live during that glorious time. But how do we make ourselves ready? Just what are we to do? Our Lord tells us in the Gospel according to St. Matthew that we are to stay awake, for we do not know on what day our Lord is coming. (St. Matthew 24:42) In other words we must be about our Lords business and in order to know just what our Lord would have us to do we must do a few things. First, we must be active in our prayers, we must earnestly seek our Lord every day in prayer, second we must be faithful in our attendance at worship and that includes partaking of Holy Communion as often as possible. Thirdly we must read our Bibles so that we internalize the Word of God so that we can do the fourth and most important thing; we must live out the Gospel. We must, at every opportunity seek to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and comfort the broken hearted, all in the Holy Name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord! We cannot do this except by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and in order for the Holy Spirit to work in us we must surrender our will to the will of God. This isn't easy, it is an ongoing struggle, but as we grow in faith the struggle becomes less and less. We never achieve the perfect submission to the will of

God that we desire, this side of eternity, because of our fallen nature but we will find it easier as we grow in our faith. As we go about our daily lives, doing all that we can to be ready for our Lords return, we will be filled with the joy unspeakable and full of glory that Holy Scripture talks about. We will be possessed of the peace that passes all understanding and each day we will join with the entire church of all time praying fervently; "Maranatha! Even so come quickly Lord Jesus" Until next month, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Your brother in Christ Jesus;

Pastor D.W.