

AN ENCOURAGING WORD FOR TROUBLING TIMES #99 (by Rev. Dr. Alice Wolfe, 7/28/20)
“Are You Ready?”

My girls and I packed up our things and headed home after a couple fun days away. We were ready to head home, but we weren't ready for what came next. After pulling out of the hotel parking lot in the Amish country and cresting the next hill, I had to slam on the brakes and swerve half-way off the road. A semi-truck headed straight for us as he attempted to pass an Amish horse and buggy going uphill. Thanks be to God, I got stopped, the truck was coming uphill (which meant he was going slowly), and everyone was OK (albeit at least one of us [me] was definitely shaken).

We never know from moment to moment what life may throw at us—impatient or careless drivers, disease, death, pandemics, riots, accidents, or Jesus' return. We never know when one moment may be our last on earth. That is why Jesus encourages us to always be ready. *“So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” (Matthew 24:44, NIV)*

Many people think, “I'll live my life the way I want, and then I'll confess my sins and ask Jesus to forgive me right before I die.” However, what if Jesus comes back or something tragically and suddenly happens to you and you never get that chance?

Jesus has a much better solution: Always be ready! Live your life for Jesus now so you can know the peace, hope, love, and joy of eternal life in THIS world and the NEXT. Even if you (like I) may prefer not to leave this world quite yet, you can still be ready spiritually—knowing that you are living with and for Jesus. And even better, live your life in such a way that you share Jesus and his love with others—so they, too, are always ready.

Are you ready? You never know what's coming over the next hill...

PRAYER:

Jesus, help me always to be ready for your return or whatever comes over the next hill. Forgive me for all my sins... Help me turn away from my sins and follow you—to truly let you be the Lord of my life. Help me live my life in such a way that not only am I ready for eternal life (in this world and in heaven), but that I help others be and live ready, too. Amen.

LIVE IT!

Return to Jesus so you're always ready for his return—and help others do the same.