

You Must Be Ready

³⁵“Stay dressed for action¹ and keep your lamps burning,³⁶ and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.³⁷ Blessed are those servants² whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.³⁸ If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!³⁹ But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he³ would not have left his house to be broken into.⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

¹Greek *Let your loins stay girded*; compare Exodus 12:11

²Or *bondservants* ³Some manuscripts add *would have stayed awake and*