

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2020
“WATCH AND PREPARE PART 2”

By Kim Sheard

Then the Son of Man will be seen coming in the clouds with great power and glory. He will send his angels to gather his chosen ones from all over the earth. ~Mark 13:26-27 (CEV)

I live with a prepper. If you're not familiar with the term, the Urban Dictionary defines prepper as “A person actively preparing or being prepared for situations that may affect the stability of home, life, or financial situation.” Preppers prepare for the possibility of things like natural disasters, health crises, and civil unrest. Though we hope to never use them, we have stores of long-shelf-life foods, first aid items, and camping supplies in our basement. We also try to keep at least one of our vehicles full up with gas. And yes, we already had masks and gloves when we needed them for COVID-19 protection.

One of the most important things a prepper can have is a bug-out bag you can grab if you need to leave your home and go elsewhere in a hurry. In this area, you might bug out if a hurricane is coming or your home floods. A bug-out bag would contain things like a multi-tool, matches, small first aid kit, a compass, some food and water, and a space blanket. The absolute necessities for journeying into the unknown.

What shall we collect in our “bug-out bags” for when “the Son of Man comes in clouds?” How do we prep for that time? How about filling our heads and souls with Christ? Praying, studying the Bible, and listening for God's voice. What about showing others the way by helping those in need and telling others about Jesus' love? And demonstrating the Christian way to live. That should fill up the main compartment of the bag. What should we put in that zip pocket on the front? How about the fruit of the spirit, “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?” (Galatians 5:22-23, NRSV) That front pocket may be smaller, but it is really easy to access. We can pull those qualities out without removing the backpack from our shoulders.

We'll be ready to go when Christ comes!

Thought for Today: What goes in your bug-out bag for when Christ gathers his chosen ones? What else do you need to do to prepare?

Prayer: Jesus, help me to prepare for your return, so that I may be worthy of being one of your chosen ones. Amen.