November 4 Answers

1) Jesus' revelation of the future was given to motivate us to live holy, godly lives in the present. His first command—Stay awake!—teaches us that the cares of this life have a way of weighing down our hearts (Luke 21:34). If we're not careful, we can become entangled in fleshly pursuits, and that day will come on us suddenly like a trap. We need to be sober and wigilant, praying for strength to follow God's commands. His second command—Be faithful!—reminds us of the importance of being a faithful steward of the gifts, talents and skills that God has given us. We need to live each day as though Jesus' coming was imminent. His last command—Prepare for judgment!—impresses on us the necessity of living a righteous life. It's not enough to claim a right relationship with God. We must be active in the work of the Kingdom, serving and ministering to those who are in need. If we ignore the hungry, the sick, and the imprisoned, we will discover to our shame that we ignored our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.