

hope of the Lord's return, as an ever present thing, as but ill suited to her. She has brought in all sorts of events to be fulfilled before that. She does not say, "He will not come," but puts it off as far as possible from a present, living hope.

In such a state of things, the Lord *has given* the warning cry. Of late years it has resounded far and wide. Opinions have varied, and speculations have been put forth as to the true character of that return. Still, the cry has gone forth—the midnight cry—for it was *at midnight* the cry was made; and it was *after midnight* the confusion, which was the result of it, took place.

Let us look around us in Christendom at present, and see if we cannot discover this very state of things—confusion of every kind. Many of those who profess His name have waked up from the slumber which has crept over the Church for centuries—wakened by the midnight cry.

Reader, are you one of those who have heard the cry? And are you conscious of the possession of that which will admit you to the marriage? I appeal to your conscience before God. Is this so, or is it not? Remember this, *the cry never was repeated.*

EVIL SERVANT—"My Lord delayeth his coming."—Matt. xxiv. 48.

SCOFFER—"Where is the promise of His coming?"—2 Peter iii. 4.

CHRISTIAN—"Come, Lord Jesus."—Rev. xxii.
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