

## “PREPPING FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD”

### II Thessalonians 1:5-10

#### I. INTRODUCTION:

A. Overwhelmed with instant gratification:

- 1.
- 2.

B. Distorted perspectives about God:

- 1.

“We want not so much a father in heaven as a grandfather in heaven. A senile benevolence who as they say, ‘likes to see young people enjoying themselves’; who at the end of each day sighs, ‘a good time was had by all’.” C.S. Lewis

- 2.
- 3.

C. Embracing God’s apocalyptic perspective:

- 1.
- 2.

D. Clarifying the context: v. 4

- 1.
- 2.

#### II. YOUR FUTURES FROM GOD’S PERSPECTIVE:

A. The believer: v. 5

1. He knows I need it:

- a. To stabilize and sensitize: (See Ja. 1:2-4; Rom. 5:3-5; II Cor. 1:5-9)
- b. For God to be big and me small: (Jn. 3:30; I Pet. 5:8; Pro. 3:5-6; Rom. 12:2)

2. It is kingdom building –evangelism to an attentive audience: (I Thes. 1:3, 6-8)

\* God’s perspective will frame any believer’s earthly heartache. (Rom. 11:33; Isa. 55:8-9; Jer. 29:11-13)

B. The unbeliever: v. 6 (Rom. 12:19)

- 1.
- 2.

C. The believer: v. 7

- 1.
- 2.

D. The unbeliever: vv. 8-9 (See Mk. 9:43-48)

1. The targeted audience:
2. The reality of hell:
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

"The age of time everlasting, or here rendered eternal, that describes our life in heaven, also describes a never ending expulsion from God's presence. Outer darkness is the way our Lord described it, a sort of solitary confinement forever. All alone, with your thoughts and memories and unable to do anything to change the scene, that is true hell." *D. Barnhouse*

\* Life's greatest fear – "To gamble your eternal destiny on wrong information." (See *Mt. 7:21-23*)

E. The believer: **v. 10** (See *I Jn. 3:2*)

1.

2.

**III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:**  
(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

A.

B.

C.

Hell is never God's choice for you. It is always the result of you personally deciding to pay for your own sin at the expense of Christ payment for it at the cross. (*Mt. 25:41; II Pet. 3:9; I Jn. 2:2; Rom. 5:8; 6:23*)

"Sin is a person saying to God throughout his life, 'Go away and leave me alone.' Hell is God finally saying to that individual, 'You now have your wish for eternity'." *C.S. Lewis*

On the authority of the Book of Absolute Truth, what is God's final word on your eternal future, as of this moment? *vv. 8-10* (See *Deut. 30:19-20a*)